THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

FACULTY OFFICE BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

WELLCOME TRUST TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH MANAGER

VACANCY REF: BM&H-016828

Salary:	£41,526 to £51,034 per annum, depending on relevant experience
Hours:	Full Time
Duration:	Fixed Term, starting as soon as possible until 8 November 2024
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:
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Contact: Dr Alessandro Faroni, Translational Research Manager
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BACKGROUND

Translational research at the University of Manchester (UoM) and in particular in the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health (FBMH) encompasses a wide range of activities stemming from discoveries in the fundamental sciences and progressing through a pipeline that includes hypothesis testing and elucidation of disease mechanisms, preclinical research in animal models, through to clinical trials in humans of new drugs, devices and diagnostic procedures and ultimately delivery and adoption within the NHS and 3rd sector organisations (e.g. prisons, schools). Health Innovation Manchester (HInM) is a unique academic health science system operating within the recently devolved Health and Social Care budget to Greater Manchester and is designed to accelerate the rate of adoption and diffusion of research and innovation across the GM conurbation. Within this system there is a critical mass of excellence, strength and depth in experimental medicine and translational research evidenced by high quality outputs and substantial grant income (for example a recently awarded £28.5m NIHR Biomedical Research Centre (BRC)). The Manchester BRC connects world-leading researchers based at UoM and local NHS Trust in Greater Manchester with a joint vision to drive forward the transformation of scientific breakthroughs into life-saving treatments and care for patients.

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The University of Manchester

Wellcome Trust Institutional Translational Partnership Awards (iTPA)

As part of a new 'Innovation for Impact' strategy, Wellcome recently announced it will provide up to £500 million over the next five years to help researchers and organisations from around the world turn great ideas, discoveries and inventions into treatments, products and cures for disease. As a part of this new strategy, UoM has been awarded iTPA funding aimed at building better links between science, technology and innovation by removing barriers between disciplines and making it easier to take the first translational step. The iTPA will provide an agile approach to supporting and enabling innovation, tailored to the needs of individual institutions and their varying ecosystems. A major focus for UoM following this award has been the development of cross-cutting initiatives to improve knowledge transfer and build interdisciplinary programmes across Health Innovation Manchester, and create a more joined up approach to translation by bringing together all the translation infrastructure and resource available.

Overall Purpose of the Job

The University of Manchester is seeking to appoint an individual as Translational Research Facilitator to support the Wellcome Trust iTPA with a view to building a critical mass of support for all Translational Researchers across the University and its partner organisations. The post will be based within the Research Strategy and Innovation Team within the Faculty of Biology Medicine and Health working across the faculty, university and with NHS and industrial partners to unblock bottlenecks to translational research. The role will primarily focus on the spread of a new translational culture through a programme of training and engagement events, developing and maintaining stronger links and constructive relationship between academics, GM NHS Trust clinicians and industry. This will ensure a two-way knowledge transfer between scientists and clinical/industrial expertise, facilities and services for novel, joint collaborations in the translational research areas represented in the Manchester NIHR BRC but also other key areas of research strength. The posts will play a major role in moving the preclinical research along the translational research continuum by identifying funding opportunities in the early translation stage to facilitate pioneering research that reaches patients. As a Professional Service role, the post holder will work closely with the GM Research Hub, NHS Trusts partners, the Manchester Clinical Trials Units, and the University of Manchester Innovation Centre to ensure a coordinated approach to translation and input across the partner organisations.

You will be proactive and solution-focused with strong programme and project management skills, you will have the ability to engage at a peer-to-peer level with experienced academics and clinicians and the ability to effectively navigate hospital and academic organisational infrastructure.

Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities or Duties

- To assist in identifying the opportunities/translational projects and driving these along the translational pathway
- To play a major role in structuring and managing the move from discovery to clinical research
- To interact with researchers and play a role in identifying collaborative interdisciplinary research opportunities

- To lead on the management of external partnerships to facilitate knowledge transfer and innovation of translational research projects

- To lead project management activity ensuring timely delivery of allocated projects including budget, contract monitoring (where appropriate) and liaising with external and internal parties

- To advise on the design of experiments where appropriate, working alongside Principal Investigators to manage the translational research project and contribute to effective team work between key internal and external people and organisations including Regulatory Agencies (MHRA, HTA etc)

- To ensure effective communication within the translational project team, troubleshoot problems, and assist the academics in managing the project milestones and deliverables

- To provide information and advice to the relevant Principal Investigators necessary for them to engage with the relevant clinicians and clinical expertise to make effective project-related decisions

- To create and maintain a database of translational research projects including outcomes and follow-on funding

- To work with colleagues in our existing Translational Research infrastructure (BRC, Stoller Centre, CRF, CTU etc) to ensure that WT translational research projects are ready for clinical research testing and evaluation

- To provide monthly written research progress reports and oral presentations at appropriate forums

- To organise Translational Research events including workshops, seminars, project dissemination events

- To act at the interface between basic and clinical researchers to highlight and discuss clinical problems and potential approaches to developing solutions

- To provide effective service in giving information and advice to UoM academic staff

- To provide a data management support service to Wellcome Trust Investigators across the University and associated partners

- Responsible for collection, coordination for two or more clinical trials on both trial case report forms and electronic database systems within allocated translational project

- To provide support to the clinical research team, Research Nurses/Clinical Trial Coordinators with trial data entry and to assist with the resolution of data queries

- To work with Investigators to prepare REC forms for submission to Health Research Authority (HRA)

- To work with contracts managers to organise Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) where appropriate

- To attend research meetings and prepare information for meetings related to regulatory issues, sample collection and management and data management.

- To liaise with Clinical Specialists/Nurses with regard to sample and data collection

- To create and maintain a database of samples and patient cohorts

- Act as a single point of contact for Data Management/ Sample collection and Regulatory advice

- To build capability and capacity around Regulatory advice across the University of Manchester and its partner organisations via the Greater Manchester Research Hub.

This job description is not intended to be exhaustive and it is likely that duties may be altered from time to time in the light of changing circumstances and after consultation with the post holder.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Specification	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)
Education & Knowledge	
Educated to post-graduate/PhD degree level or equivalent in a biomedical science related subject	E
Knowledge of clinical research including GCP, Research Governance & European Clinical Trials Directive	E
Experience	
Experience in monitoring and completing complex projects and demonstrating ability to set budgets, timescales and deadlines	E
Experience of initiating and leading project and partnership activity and maximising relations with relevant parties and services	E
Political skills with previous experience of working with senior people in the public sector and particularly the NHS and public sector	D

Experience of working with research governance including ethics and MHRA issues	D
Skills	
Computer literate (Microsoft word, Excel, PowerPoint, Web searching, MS Project Manager)	E
Excellent liaison skills and the ability to respond appropriately, confidently and sensitively in relation to external organisations	E
Database Creation and Management	E
Ability and experience of handling a challenging role with confidence, demonstrating initiative, self-motivation and attention to detail	E
Ability to work as a part of team	E
Excellent Communication skills (written and verbal): experience and proven ability in preparing and presenting reports that are clear, concise, accurate, and appropriate for a diverse audience verbally and in writing	E
General	
Ability to comprehend and follow written protocols	E
Ability to write progress reports and updates	E