THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - LIFE SUPPORT: TECHNOLOGIES, INSTITUTIONS AND EXPERIENCES IN THE HISTORY OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE, 1945-2020

VACANCY REF: BMH-028332

Salary:	Grade 6 £37,174 to £45,413 per annum, depending on relevant experience
Hours:	Full time (1 FTE)
Duration:	Fixed term until 31/05/2026 (subject to extension)
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:
Name: Professor Carsten Timmermann
Email: carsten.timmermann@manchester.ac.uk

The University of Manchester
The University of Manchester is the largest single-site university in the UK with around 40,000 students and more than 12,000 staff (including 7000 academics). We are committed to (a) delivering an outstanding teaching and learning experience preparing students for leadership; (b) contributing to the social and economic success of local, national and international communities; (c) producing the highest calibre graduates; (d) and developing our staff to be among the very best of their peers. Our trajectory is excellent, evidenced by recently being named as the world number one university in the Times Higher Education rankings for Impact.

Our aim is to become one of the top 25 research universities in the world, and we are committed to a transformative research agenda. We are unique in the UK higher education sector in having Social Responsibility as one of our three core strategic goals, sitting equally alongside our commitments to research and teaching. To achieve our ambitious goals, we aim to attract and retain the very best people to work across a range of academic disciplines and support functions.

The University of Manchester strives to make our community a welcoming, caring and enthusiastic one, fueling ambition, combined with opportunities and support to help us all achieve our personal and professional goals. We offer an attractive benefits package with family-

friendly policies that provide for flexible working. We care deeply about career and personal development, offering a structured induction programme for new staff, an annual performance and development review, staff training for all career stages and mentoring opportunities to support career development. We have a genuine commitment to equality of opportunity for our staff and students, and our ambition is to employ a workforce that reflects the diverse community we serve.

As a global institution, situated at the heart of a lively, culturally diverse city, we welcome applicants of all nationalities.

The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health (FBMH)
The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health has an integrated structure to deliver a truly translational approach to bio-medical sciences, ensuring smooth research pathways - from pure discovery science through to clinical application and patient care. With a total annual income of over £300 million, and over 3,000 members of staff, the Faculty is comparable in size to a medium-sized UK university. Thirty undergraduate and 90 postgraduate programmes offer our 11,000 students opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge they need for a successful career. The integration of discovery biology, clinical application and patient care within a single Faculty, particularly in a region with notable health inequalities, provides us with a real opportunity to have a very significant and positive impact on people's lives.

The School of Medical Sciences (SMS)
The School of Medical Sciences is one of three Schools which form the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health. Led by Professor Tony Heagerty, the School contains six Divisions: Cardiovascular Sciences; Cancer Sciences; Dentistry; Developmental Biology and Medicine; Diabetes, Endocrinology and Gastroenterology; and Medical Education, which includes CHSTM. In an addition to a strong and diverse research base, SMS has a major teaching portfolio, being responsible for the MB ChB and BDS programmes plus a large suite of Masters courses.

The Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM)
The University of Manchester has a long tradition pioneering new approaches in Science and Technology Studies and Social Studies of Medicine, and at CHSTM we see ourselves as part of this tradition. Founded in 1986, we are one of the largest groups in the UK dedicated to research and teaching in the integrated history and social studies of science, technology and medicine, especially in the nineteenth to twenty-first centuries. We look at science, technology and medicine as important aspects of modern culture. In the 2010s we added a successful MSc in science and health communication to our portfolio of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. We maintain active research and teaching collaborations with colleagues in the sciences, humanities and social sciences across the Manchester campus and beyond, including many international contacts.

At the University of Manchester, we have well-established working relations with colleagues in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (e.g. History, English and American Studies, Japanese Studies, Archaeology, Art Gallery and Museum Studies), Medical Sciences, Health Sciences, Bioethics and Law Social Anthropology, the Business School, and the School of Environment, Education and Development. We also have close working contacts at the Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery, which are both part of the University of Manchester, our Faculty's Museum of Medicine and Health, the Science and Industry Museum, the University's John Rylands Research Institute and Manchester University Press.

CHSTM is well connected internationally. CHSTM colleagues have been members of the executive committees of organisations such as the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the American Association for the History of Medicine, the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, the European Society for the History of Science and the British Society for the History of Science. Colleagues have also held key positions on funding panels of the Wellcome Trust, the European Commission, and other organisations funding research in our field.

The Project

The Research Associate will be working as member of the research team for a historical research project investigating the recent history of intensive care and intensive care units, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation until 31 August 2028 and directed by Professors Flurin Condrau at the University of Zurich and Carsten Timmermann at the University of Manchester. The post is for the duration of the project, but subject to funding and annual renewal.

No area of modern medicine received a more profound stress test during the Covid-19 pandemic than intensive care units. Born over 70 years ago during another global emergency (the polio epidemics of the 1950s), intensive care and intensive care units (ICUs) have become, in the ensuing decades, a central aspect of modern hospital medicine. Consisting of the focused use of high-technology therapies and concentrated nursing practices, intensive care has emerged as a major plank of hospital therapy, one of the chief drivers of profits and costs in contemporary healthcare, and a key site for major ethical dilemmas (such as the rationing of care, the limits of medical intervention, and the determination of death). Despite the centrality of intensive care to modern hospitals in times of both emergency and normal operations, we have relatively little understanding of the social, technological, scientific, or economic forces that brought intensive care into being, sustained its growth, and shaped its operations over the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Moreover, there has been little historical scholarship that has tracked the changing patient experience in intensive care.

The project is a collaboration between teams at the Institut für Biomedizinische Ethik und Medizingeschichte, University of Zurich, and the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of Manchester. We aim to examine the emergence of intensive care during the 1950s, and follow its growth and development as a new medical field and hospital institution in Switzerland and the United Kingdom (UK) from the 1960s to 2020. We will also track the changing experience of being a patient during the half-century that intensive care has existed, with particular emphasis on the changing profile of complications and iatrogenic illnesses that have developed alongside intensive care. Finally, this project aims to trace the history of intensive care up to the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic, when ICUs took center stage in pandemic response, and became the focus of intense public scrutiny and professional uncertainty. Far from being an inevitable or stable feature of modern hospitals, this project will examine intensive care as a unique experimental space where the goal has been to suspend death and preserve life by all means, with the help of progressively more sophisticated equipment which extended the physiology laboratory into the clinic, and technologies that have been increasingly effective at temporarily replacing bodily functions. However, as this study will demonstrate, this also created ethical grey areas around patient autonomy and the legitimacy of therapeutic experiments, as well as the emergence of iatrogenic conditions.

The Role
The Research Associate will focus on the UK side of the history of intensive care and intensive care units. We are looking for a keen and imaginative researcher with expertise and interest in the recent and contemporary history of science, technology and medicine and a track record of working independently and responsibly. In close coordination with the PIs the successful candidate will plan and organise the oral history component of the project, including the drafting of the application for ethics committee approval. They will identify interviewees and undertake interviews. They will locate and study relevant primary sources in archives and in published literature. They will write up the research, both in joint publications with other members of the team and individually, and present results at conferences. They will liaise with relevant stakeholders and contribute to the communication of the findings to suitable audiences within and beyond academia.

Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities or Duties
The range of duties will include:

- Collaborate with the research team to ensure research aligns with project goals
- Conduct historical research (interviews and archival research) related to the project
- Actively contribute to the writing of research papers, reports and presentations to an academic and non-academic audience
- Publish research
- Manage the coordination of project activities, including the drafting and administering of ethical clearance procedures for the research
- Deal with communication with key respondents for the research using a range of media
- Present research findings in relevant conferences, workshops and meetings
- Manage own research and administrative activities, with guidance if required
- Attend and contribute to relevant planning and implementation meetings
- Analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes
- Contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues on the project
- Use research resources to achieve research objectives
- Balance with help the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines
- Be aware of the risks in the research environment and their potential impact on their own work and that of others

Person Specification

Essential

- Have, or be about to obtain, a relevant PhD (or equivalent) in History of Science, Technology or Medicine, or a related field
- Experience in historical research methods and techniques

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Excellent time management and organisational skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to liaise confidently and effectively with a range of individuals
- Flexible approach to dealing with research problems as they arise
- Willingness to learn and develop
- Ability to present in both written and oral publications
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Strong publication record
- The ability to evaluate complex data
- Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes
- Ability to assess and organise resources
- Understanding of ethical issues as they may impact on the research