

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

FACULTY OFFICE, RESEARCH STRATEGY & INNOVATION TEAM

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH MANAGER FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (R&I) ACCELERATOR

VACANCY REF: BMH-016315

Salary:	Grade 7, £41,526 to £51,034 per annum
Hours:	Full time
Duration:	Fixed term starting as soon as possible until 30 June 2023
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

Manager: Ania Jolly, Interim Pankhurst Operations Manager, Strategic Funding Manager
Email: ania.jolly@manchester.ac.uk

Introduction

This project is one component of an integrated programme 'R&I Health Accelerator' that will be managed jointly by The University of Manchester (UoM) with Health Innovation Manchester (HInM). HInM is a unique academic health science and Innovation system operating within the recently devolved Health and Social Care budget to Greater Manchester (GM) and is designed to accelerate the rate of adoption and diffusion of research and innovation across the GM conurbation.

The project will allow GM SMEs to work with UoM researchers to seek advice, co-develop ideas, and lead collaborative feasibility projects with access to significant University resource. The project will build on an existing UoM portfolio of health innovation proof-of-concept projects, and the pool of expertise they represent, with a particular emphasis on digital and materials technologies. It will develop actionable value-propositions and build new partnerships, supporting new products and services to progress towards market, whilst creating a legacy of continuing SME engagement with the University.

The project will complement a recently agreed £25m University and Local Growth Fund investment in the Christabel Pankhurst Institute for Health Technology Research and Innovation (Pankhurst), which aims to accelerate the application of advanced materials and digital technologies to meet real healthcare needs and address market opportunities. The Institute will host the project and operate in partnership with HInM, MSP and MFT, with a view to establishing a robust translational pathway from basic research through to health benefit and economic growth.

A Translational Research Manager is required to ensure a two-way knowledge transfer between scientists and clinical expertise, facilities and services for novel, joint collaborations with industry in the translational research areas and to play a major role in moving the preclinical research along the translational research continuum by identifying funding and industry collaboration opportunities in the early translation stage to facilitate pioneering research that reaches patients.

The post holder will work in partnership with a team of Translational Research Managers funded by Wellcome Trust Translational Partnership Award (WT TPA) (one position soon to be advertised) within the RS&I team to ensure alignment of all translational research activities across the Faculty, academic and professional services colleagues, Directorate of Research and Business Engagement teams as well as other University directorates and divisions.

The selection and interview panel will be joint for both Translational Research Manager roles, so please state if you have a preference for either role or if you would like to be considered for both positions.

Key Interactions: The post holder will be embedded in the Research Strategy and Innovation (RS&I) Team and will work closely with the Faculty Associate Dean for Business Engagement, the Pankhurst Institute Director and Strategic Funding Manager (aligned to the Pankhurst Institute), the Business Engagement & Knowledge Exchange team and with the other delivery partners in the R&I accelerator project (i.e. HInM, the University of Manchester Innovation Factory (IF), BioNow, and Manchester City Council (MCC)) and representatives of external stakeholders (industrial, commercial, charity and third sector partners). The post holder will work in partnership with the two other Translational Research Facilitators within the RS&I team to ensure alignment of all translational research activities across the Faculty, academic and professional services colleagues in Faculties and Schools, Directorate of Research and Business Engagement teams as well as other University directorates and divisions.

Job Description

The post holder will be responsible for providing expertise in health innovation translation into practice, working closely with HInM and as a member of the value proposition team to develop clear and robust value propositions for proposed health innovations, and contributing to the development of processes and tools to support the translational pathway.

Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities or Duties

- To identify opportunities and translational projects and to drive these along the translational pathway and Health and Care system working in partnership with academics, industry, and project partners.

- To work closely with SMEs and academics to understand their areas of expertise, products and/or services, exploring opportunities to match their capabilities with significant unmet health and care needs
- To act at the interface between basic and clinical researchers, academia and industry to highlight and discuss clinical problems and potential approaches to developing solutions
- To provide support to SMEs in developing clear healthcare relevant value propositions for their products or services as a part of the project “value proposition team” working closely with the health economists, and the senior commercialisation manager on the project
- To develop and maintain a publicly accessible catalogue of over 100 health innovation projects, highlighting those that have reached a level of maturity where collaboration with business would help them progress along the translational pathway
- To support SME-researcher teams to co-develop R&D collaborative proposals and projects
- To lead project management activities ensuring timely delivery of the R&D collaborative projects with industry including budget, contract monitoring (where appropriate) and liaising with external and internal parties.
- To advise on the design of projects where appropriate, working alongside SMEs, and researchers to manage the translational research project, analyse their need to seek ethics approval and/or meet regulatory requirements, providing practical support and signposting sources of specialist advice on the journey to commercialisation.
- To provide information and advice for SMEs to engage with the relevant academics to access University expertise across a range of technical, clinical, social and organisational disciplines to make effective project-related decisions.
- To create and maintain a database of translational research projects including ERDF project outputs, outcomes and follow-on funding.
- To provide monthly written research progress reports and oral presentations at appropriate forums including the project’s networking events and collaborative workshops with SMEs.
- To ensure effective communication within the ERDF Programme Development team, troubleshoot problems, and assist the SMEs and academics in managing the project milestones and deliverables.
- To organise Translational Research events including workshops, seminars, project dissemination events.
- To work and network with colleagues in our existing Translational Research infrastructure (Wellcome Trust iTPA, BRC, HInM, CRF, CTU etc) to ensure that translational research projects are progressing towards higher Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs).
- To provide effective service in giving information and advice to UoM academic staff.
- 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 create and maintain a database of samples and patient cohorts.

- To 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.

Person Specification

Essential

- Educated to post-graduate/PhD degree level or equivalent in a biomedical science related subject
- Knowledge of clinical research including GCP, Research Governance & European Clinical Trials Directive
- Experience of working with Industry or business support agencies, SMEs would be an advantage
- Experience in monitoring and completing complex projects and demonstrating ability to set budgets, timescales and deadlines
- Knowledge of the interface between multi-party projects, and supporting these with demonstrable outputs
- Experience of initiating and leading project and partnership activity and maximising relations with relevant parties and services, working across different stakeholders
- Computer literate (Microsoft word, Excel, PowerPoint, Web searching, MS Project Manager)
- Excellent liaison skills and the ability to respond appropriately, confidently and sensitively in relation to external organisations
- Database Creation and Management
- Ability and experience of handling a challenging role with confidence, demonstrating initiative, self-motivation and attention to detail
- Ability to work as a part of team
- 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
- Ability to monitor activity, senior management progress reports and stakeholder updates

Desirable

- Relationship building skills with previous experience of working with senior people in industry, the public sector and particularly the NHS and public sector
- Experience of working with research governance including ethics and MHRA issues
- Previous experience with working with ERDF funding, including monitoring and recording information suitable for audits