

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT
FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH
SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
DIVISION OF MUSCULOSKELETAL AND DERMATOLOGICAL SCIENCE
POST-DOCTORAL QUALITATIVE RESEARCHER
VACANCY REF: BMH-022774

Salary:	Grade 6 £35,308 to £43,155 per annum, depending on relevant experience
Hours:	Full Time (1 FTE)
Duration:	Fixed Term For 12 Months
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

Name: Dr Elaine Mackey

Email: Elaine.mackey@manchester.ac.uk

We are looking for a proactive and ambitious qualitative researcher with a keen interest in digital health and data privacy to join the Remote Monitoring in Rheumatoid Arthritis (REMORA) research programme. REMORA is an NIHR-funded programme that aims to evaluate and implement remote monitoring technology to enable people with rheumatoid arthritis to daily track their symptoms and share these with their rheumatology team. REMORA is hosted by the Centre for Epidemiology Versus Arthritis (University of Manchester), which delivers a world-leading portfolio of innovative musculoskeletal and digital epidemiology research across Greater Manchester and beyond.

You will play a key role in the development of a governance framework and digital prototype to obtain self-administered e-consent for smartphone-based collection of digital patient-generated health data (PGHD) for use in both clinical care and population health research. You will have a meticulous attention to detail, experience of designing, conducting and writing up qualitative research and experience of working effectively with a range of stakeholders.

Background Information on the REMORA2 Research Programme

The “Remote Monitoring of Rheumatoid Arthritis (REMORA 2)” study, is a NIHR funded program led by Professor Will Dixon and Dr Sabine Van der veer.

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is managed by specialists at infrequent outpatient consultations. Treatment decisions are informed by asking “how have you been in the last six months?” However,

patients find it difficult to give accurate information, which can negatively affect treatment decisions and outcomes. Remote monitoring of patients' symptoms on a regular basis offers a unique opportunity to address this issue. REMORA will integrate patient-reported symptom data, via a remote monitoring app, into clinical workflows to:

1. Evaluate whether it improves care and outcomes for people living with long-term conditions, using RA as an exemplar.
2. Generating and disseminating knowledge on how to successfully implement patient-generated data into the NHS, including necessary behaviour and process change.

In addition to supporting direct clinical care, the daily tracked symptom data could be used for innovative and novel population health research. For example, analysis of such data can answer questions such as "how commonly do patients experience flares in RA", or "are there things that influence the onset or severity of flares".

To support both clinical care and research, we need patients to understand the different potential uses of their data, and to provide consent to direct how their data are being used and potentially shared. Working under the guidance of the Work Package lead and Programme's PIs the researcher will contribute to the delivery of the Work-Package on e-consent. This Work Package will establish the governance requirements for self-administered e-consent for the purposes of care and research. This work will involve both desk and field-based research, beginning with a review of published and grey literature on consent for clinical care and research that will include peer-reviewed articles, relevant data protection regulations, policies and documents of health data and regulatory organisations. You will then conduct interviews with a wide range of stakeholders from professional groups and PPIE contributors. Through this consultation phase, you will review and refine draft governance requirements for a single eConsent process to enable PGHD data collection to support both clinical care and research. The resultant governance requirements will then be embedded in a co-designed e-consent prototype through a series of workshops.

Overall Purpose of Role

As the researcher in the REMORA team working in the programme's e-consent workstream, you will: lead on developing a governance framework; lead on the write up of the work in a peer-reviewed publication and public-facing report; and support workshops for co-designing a digital prototype for obtaining self-administered e-consent from patients for using their PGHD for their care and for research. The e-consent prototype aims to improve the user's comprehension of the consent and the experience of the consenting process by moving beyond the simple replication of paper consent forms.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Development of governance framework:

- Conduct a review of published and grey literature including peer-reviewed articles, relevant data protection regulations, policies and documents of health data and regulatory organisations.
- Identify and recruit relevant stakeholder representatives, including professionals and members of the public.
- Design, organise and conduct individual interviews and focus groups with stakeholder representatives.
- Analyse and synthesise the interview and focus group data.
- Lead on writing the public-facing report on governance principles for self-administered e-consent.
- Work collaboratively with research and industry partners.
- Present and disseminate findings at research meetings and to relevant stakeholders.
- Lead on writing up the work for publication in a peer-reviewed journal as appropriate.

Development of a prototype for self-administered e-consent for digital PGHD:

- Conduct a review of published literature on self-administered tools for obtaining consent and e-consent.
- Lead on the design of a paper prototype, informed by the literature review and the work undertaken to develop the governance framework.
- Design, plan and conduct co-design workshops to refine the paper prototype.
- Work with a user-centred designer to (1) advance the paper prototype to a digital prototype, and (2) develop a document that outlines the purpose and scope of the module, its intended use and target audience, and the key software features and requirements.
- Lead on writing up the work for publication in a peer-reviewed journal as appropriate.

Other:

- Assisting the wider research team with the administration of the project.
- Liaising with the project's PPIE group and other relevant internal and external group to support the running of the project.
- Any other relevant duties commensurate with the grade of the post as directed by the Principal Investigator.

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement PPI/E:

The vision of the Centre for Epidemiology Versus Arthritis is to be among the UK's leading research departments for Patient and Public Involvement/Engagement (PPI/E). We aim to position patients and PPI/E activities at the very heart of everything we do, knowing that by working together we can make our research and impact better. The post holder is expected to undertake PPI/E and will be required to actively participate in delivering the Centre's PPIE Strategy.

Social Responsibility

The successful candidate will be expected to display commitment to the University’s third strategic goal of social responsibility, where the aim is to promote social responsibility and make a positive contribution to society through our full range of teaching, research, engagement and operational activities.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in a relevant subject (such as social science, law, health informatics, health data science). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed Good Clinical Practice training.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of designing, conducting, analysing and writing up qualitative research independently and as part of a team. • Evidence of an interest in (e-)consent, governance, data protection and / or ethics. • Evidence of writing and publishing research papers as a first author. • Experience of working effectively with a wide range of stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience using Nvivo or other relevant software for qualitative research. • Experience of designing and organising co-design workshops or similar events. • Experience in knowledge transfer/stakeholder engagement. • Evidence of an interest in digital health data and/or technology
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrable skills in conducting individual and group interviews. • Demonstrable skills in designing, conducting and writing up system literature and/or policy reviews. • Excellent and demonstrable scientific writing skills with an ability to convey research ideas and findings clearly. • Excellent communication skills, both written and oral. • Ability to develop productive working relationships with academic and non-academic stakeholders. • Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary research team. • Ability to exercise personal initiative in organising own work. • Commitment and ability to produce consistent quality work within tight deadlines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User-centred or co-design skills.

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of issues associated with consent in health care and in research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of data protection and related legislation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Centre for Epidemiology (CfE) Versus Arthritis

The Centre for Epidemiology Versus Arthritis (CfE) is a vibrant, interdisciplinary research centre that aims to improve the lives of people with musculoskeletal (MSK) diseases. We do this by understanding how commonly MSK disease occurs, the impact that it has on patients, and the safety and effectiveness of treatments. The Centre is founded on a strong legacy of MSK epidemiology in Manchester dating back to the 1950s and has evolved to deliver best practice for modern epidemiology in the 21st Century. Our research has local, national and global impact upon clinical practice, policy, guidelines, and on patients, their families and the wider community.

With dedicated teaching and learning, infrastructure, communication and Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) teams, we help all our staff and students achieve their ambitions in research and development, teaching, social responsibility and gaining wider impact and implementation. We form strong research collaborations, actively engaging with key stakeholders, sharing research methods, tools and data, and aiming to support open and transparent research.

The Centre sits within the University of Manchester, recognised globally for the excellence of our people, research, learning and innovation, and with one of the largest populations of international students in the UK.

With a highly collaborative and supportive culture, the CfE aspires to uphold the highest professional standards in epidemiology and is committed to attracting and nurturing a dynamic, inclusive and diverse team.

Introduction to the University of Manchester and the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

The University of Manchester is the largest single-site university in the UK with around 38,000 students and more than 11,000 staff. We aim to become one of the top 25 research universities in the world and are committed to delivering an outstanding teaching and learning experience; contributing to the social and economic success of local, national and international communities; producing the highest calibre graduates; and developing our staff to be amongst the very best of their peers.

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 Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

The integrated structure of our faculty enables a truly translational approach to biology, medicine and health - from pure discovery science through to clinical application and patient care. It also encourages collaborative working, enabling staff to deliver innovative, world-leading research that has a very real and positive impact on people's lives, as well as high-quality education and training to over 11,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Our Strategic Partnerships

The faculty has established a number of key strategic partnerships that underpin its ambitions to develop ground-breaking research.

Working alongside six local NHS Trusts, the Faculty is a key member of the <https://mft.nhs.uk/withington/research/manchester-academic-health-science-centre-mahsc/> - a federation of equal partners that unites leading healthcare providers with world-class academics and researchers. It aims to be a global centre for the delivery of applied health research and education and provide leadership for our local and regional health systems.

We also play a leading role in <https://healthinnovationmanchester.com/>, which was launched in September 2015, as part of the UK Government's decision to devolve health and social care responsibilities to Greater Manchester. HInM offers a unique opportunity to bring together health and social care, academic and life science related business resources across the region to deliver an innovative health ecosystem that can help accelerate innovation into our local health and social care systems, enhance our global scientific standing and act as a magnet for inward investment.

Key partnerships in the charitable sector include Cancer Research UK; Diabetes UK; and the Wellcome Trust; and the faculty also has research and funding links to a number of commercial organisations including Unilever, AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline and Boots, who help us to bring new drugs and products to the market.

Working for the University of Manchester

The University of Manchester strives to make our community a welcoming, caring and enthusiastic one, fuelling ambition with opportunities and support to help us all achieve our personal and professional goals.

Our diverse job opportunities include an attractive <https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/people-and-od/benefit/> 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 your career development.

We have a genuine commitment to <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/jobs/equality-diversity/awards/> for our staff and students, and are proud to employ a workforce that reflects the diverse community we serve.

As a global institution, situated at the heart of a lively, <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/experience/student-life/city/>, we welcome applicants of all nationalities. To help international job applicants plan for life in the UK, we have put together some useful <http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/employment/joining-the-university/international-staff/> travel to the UK, accommodation and a number of other practical considerations.