

## **Academic Foundation Programme in Research at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital and Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool**

### **Academic Foundation Team**

**Academic Foundation Lead:** Dr Cecilia Jukka, Consultant Medical Microbiologist

**Foundation Training Programme Leads:** Mr Chris Webb, Consultant ENT Surgeon & Dr Cecilia Jukka, Consultant Medical Microbiologist

**Integrated Clinical Academic Training Project Officer:** Miss Debbie Sweeney

Our academic foundation programme involves collaboration between clinicians and clinical academics at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust (RLBUHT), Alder Hey Children's Hospital and the academic departments at the University of Liverpool.

### **There are 6 academic research posts based at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital:**

We aim to provide some flexibility around research topics but typically research has predominantly been affiliated with the following units:

Gastroenterology  
Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics  
Ophthalmology  
Cancer (especially Pathology)  
Haematology  
Infectious Diseases

### **There are 3 academic education posts based at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital:**

Foundation doctors allocated an education post will undergo training in medical educational methods and support the delivery of teaching to undergraduate medical students with involvement in the simulation training team for RLBUHT.

They also undertake an educational research project and are funded to complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Clinical Practice at Edge Hill University (this is a distance learning course with some face to face contact days and requires completion of three higher education modules and assessments).

The nominated academic supervisor for all three academic education posts is Mr Chris Webb. Consultant ENT Surgeon.

### **There are 3 academic paediatric research posts based at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool:**

**Academic Foundation Lead: Dr Melissa Gladstone, Honorary Consultant**  
Neurodevelopmental Paediatrics

Foundation doctors allocated to academic paediatric research complete their clinical programme through RLBUHT but the academic paediatric research foundation lead is supported by Melissa Gladstone, Honorary Consultant Neurodevelopmental Paediatrician, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool.

## **Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital Trust**

The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital Trust is the **largest hospital in Merseyside and Cheshire**, based close to the city centre, providing emergency, general and specialist treatment to patients from across the North-West of England, North Wales and the Isle of Man.

It currently has around 40 wards, more than 710 beds (excluding day case and dialysis beds). Major services such as respiratory care, diabetes, orthopaedics and trauma, general surgery and urology are based within the hospital, together with regional and national specialist services in nephrology, renal transplant, renal dialysis, pancreatic surgery, ophthalmology, haematology, bone marrow transplant and vascular surgery.

As a major university hospital, we work closely with both the University of Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores University to provide placements for student doctors, nurses, dentists and allied health professionals. Our aim is to provide quality undergraduate and postgraduate education with development in all disciplines and to continue to be recognised as a centre of excellence in biomedical, clinical and health service research.

Our research and development portfolio is one of **the largest portfolios of clinical research in the North West** with over 400 clinical research projects covering many disease areas including cancer, gastroenterology, oral health, stroke, ophthalmology, infection and pharmacology.

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust

The new £280m state-of-the-art Alder Hey Children's Hospital, or 'Alder Hey in the Park' opened in October 2015. This unique opportunity allows us to make a major step-change in developing an outstanding new Research, Innovation and Education Facility alongside the new hospital. Phase 1 of this new Facility opened in September 2015, giving every child cared for at the hospital the opportunity to participate in clinical studies and potentially life-saving clinical trials. Within the Department of Women's and Children's Health, there is a flourishing research environment, with an emphasis on the career development of young researchers. Research interests range from translational basic science research (immunopathology of respiratory viral infections in children, role of the innate and adaptive immunity in paediatric autoimmune disease, mechanisms of disease in severe bacterial infection), pharmacogenomics of adverse drug reactions in children, pharmacokinetics, pharmacovigilance, clinical trials and systematic reviews. Within the Medicines for Children Clinical Trials Unit, which is based in the Institute, expertise includes senior statisticians, trials managers and IT specialists. Many here also work in International Child Health and there are opportunities within a number of areas of paediatrics within this area including links with Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Trust. There are regular research seminars, with an emphasis on presentations by young researchers.

## **Integrated Clinical Academic Training (ICAT)**

Director Prof. Robert Moots Professor of Rheumatology (Aintree Campus)

Deputy Direct Prof. Calum Semple, Professor of Child Health (Alder Hey Campus)

ICAT is a programme of training and support, designed for clinicians undertaking academic careers. It provides undergraduate opportunities and postgraduate professional career pathways in both medicine and dentistry.

Through the ICAT programme, we aspire to develop the next generation of leading medical academics. It is the partnership between University of Liverpool and Health Education North West and is jointly managed by representatives of both organisations.

The University provides a nurturing, active learning environment and supports each ICAT trainee through developing personal research skills and professional and educational practice. ICAT training is also underpinned by individualised career mentorship and academic supervision.

Within the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, we deliver world-class research in areas such as cancer, drug safety and infectious diseases for children and adults. ICAT trainees work at the forefront of these studies and conduct their own research within our state-of-the-art facilities.

Alongside training and mentorship, ICAT provides regular trainee forums and an innovative programme of events and tailored networking opportunities. ICAT provides a range of pathways suitable for trainees at different stages in their careers:

- • Academic Foundation Programme Years 1&2
- • Academic Clinical Fellowships
- • Clinical Research Fellowships leading to PhD
- • Academic Clinical Lectureship posts
- • Clinician Scientist Posts and National Clinician Scientist Awards

Posts Dentistry

## **The Academic Foundation Programme**

The Academic Foundation Programme (AFP) over years 1&2 is part of a structured career pathway within the ICAT programme and is ideally suited to those with an interest in education, research or who already know they want to pursue an academic career.

Securing an Academic Foundation appointment is highly competitive. It is not essential, but an advantage for applicants to already hold a degree such as a MRes, MPhil, MSc or PhD and to demonstrate other evidence of research activity, particularly published work.

This structured two-year programme allows you to obtain clinical competencies, while following a research interest of your choice. You will gain the essential knowledge and competencies required for foundation training and also

develop research, teaching, leadership and management skills.

Liverpool and Merseyside have a total of 21 academic foundation posts per year as part of the North-West of England Foundation School. Each post involves a dedicated 4-month academic block during the second year of foundation training. The remaining time is spent rotating through various clinical specialties at the host hospital.

Academic research trainees undertake a research project during a designated 4-month placement in Foundation Year 2 (FY2). There are a range of possible supervisors and specialties available. Academic education trainees also have a dedicated 4-month FY2 placement.

- • 6 academic research and 3 academic education trainees are based at Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital
- • 3 paediatric academic research trainees complete their academic research component based at Alder Hey Children's Hospital but are hosted through the foundation training programme at Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital
- • 6 academic research and 3 academic education trainees are based at University Hospital Aintree/Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery