

Academic Foundation Programmes at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust

Academic Foundation Team

Academic Foundation Lead: Dr Cecilia Jukka, Consultant Medical Microbiologist

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

Our academic foundation programme (AFP) involves collaboration between clinicians and clinical academics at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust (RLBUHT), Alder Hey Children's Hospital Foundation Trust 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 flexibility around placement research topics particularly when appointees have particular research interests. RLBUHT has many different departments actively involved in research and recent research foundation placements have been affiliated with the following units:

Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics

Ophthalmology

Cancer (especially Pathology)

Haematology

Infectious Diseases (including our first AFP placement in Malawi)

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 currently 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). Foundation Training Programme Directors – Dr Cecilia Jukka and Mr Chris Webb act as nominated academics for academic education posts.

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

Foundation doctors allocated to academic paediatric research complete their clinical programme through RLBUHT but the academic paediatric research foundation lead is supported by Dr Melissa Gladstone, Senior Lecturer in Neurodevelopmental Paediatrics and International Child Health.

Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust

The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS 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 and more than 710 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 to support development in all disciplines with recognition as a centre of excellence in biomedical, clinical and health service research.

From November 2019, Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust (RLBUHT) will merge with Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (AUHT) and a newly formed University Hospital (name to be decided) will offer placements for all foundation doctors. Further confirmation of clinical placements within foundation tracks will follow, but it is not anticipated that there will be change in numbers of academic posts allocated (12 AFP posts for RLBUHT and 9 AFP posts for AUHT) for the 2020-2022 academic foundation programme.

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust

The new state-of-the-art Alder Hey Children's Hospital opened in October 2015. This unique opportunity facilitated the development of an outstanding new Research, Innovation and Education Centre alongside the hospital. Within the hospital there is a flourishing research environment with an emphasis on the career development of young researchers.

Research interests range from translational basic science research, pharmacogenomics of adverse drug reactions in children, 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)

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 a partnership between University of Liverpool and Health Education North West and is jointly managed by representatives of both organisations.

The University of Liverpool 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.

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 research or education.

Securing an Academic Foundation appointment is highly competitive. It is not essential, but an advantage for applicants to already hold a degree such as an 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. There are a range of possible supervisors and specialties available

- 6 academic research and 3 academic education trainees are based at Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust
- 3 paediatric academic research trainees complete their academic research component at Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust but are part of the clinical foundation training programme at Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust.
- 6 academic research and 3 academic education trainees are based at Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.