

**APCRC / CAPC LAUNCHING FELLOWSHIP IN PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH**

### Further Particulars and Application Process

**The Launching Fellowship**

Applications are invited for an 18 month Launching Fellowship from individuals with a strong academic record who wish to develop a career in primary care research. The goal of the Fellowship is for the appointee to publish papers and write a post-doctoral Fellowship or NIHR grant application to secure future funding. This will provide a platform to develop as an independent researcher and become a future leader in primary care research. Suitable applicants include promising early career researchers who are within 5 years of completing their PhD and who now seek to gain their first research grant or a post-doctoral fellowship. We will consider applications from candidates who will have submitted their PhD by 1st March 2015 and can provide a letter of support from their supervisor(s) that they are likely to be awarded their PhD with no more than minor corrections at viva.

The Launching Fellowship must commence by the end of March 2015. The Fellowship is a collaborative venture between Avon Primary Care Research Collaborative (APCRC) – hosted at NHS Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group - and the Centre for Academic Primary Care (CAPC) within the School of Social and Community Medicine at the University of Bristol. The successful candidate will be employed by and based at the University of Bristol.

The Fellowship is open to all disciplines relevant to primary care research, including clinical and non-clinical disciplines. Applicants must have a track record in conducting research of relevance to primary health care and in generating important research questions affecting primary health care. We wish to attract applicants who have experience of undertaking primary care research that leads to high quality peer-reviewed publications, have completed (or are very close to completing) a PhD in an area of relevance to primary health care, and demonstrate the capacity to generate research questions and designs appropriate for primary care. The applicant’s proposed work during the Fellowship must relate to one of the research themes of the Centre for Academic Primary Care (<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare/>).

During the Launching Fellowship, the appointee will be expected to undertake activities such as writing up publications and working on one or more research studies within the Centre for Academic Primary Care, to prepare the way for a larger externally funded grant or successful post-doctoral fellowship application. The Fellowship holder will be expected to begin to build their own research portfolio as principal or co-principal investigator. Applicants will need to demonstrate outstanding potential to obtain an externally funded research grant or fellowship within 18 months of taking up the fellowship. This might be evidenced, for example, by a good publication record (taking into account stage of career) and successful prior involvement in grant applications.

Although we seek to appoint someone with the drive and ambition to ultimately lead their own research programme, it is also important that the successful applicant contributes to the intellectual life of the Academic Centre and the School, and to a co-operative, collaborative and productive working environment.

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| **Person Specification** |
| The qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience outlined below provide a summary of what is expected from the person appointed to the Launching Fellowship. They also form the selection criteria on which the decision on who to appoint will be made. Please ensure that your application form and CV demonstrate how you meet the criteria outlined below. |
| **Relevant Experience, Skills and Knowledge** |
| Essential | Desirable |
| * Excellent understanding of important issues for primary care
* Expertise in health services research using quantitative or qualitative methods (or both)
* Experience of developing own innovative research ideas
* Substantial experience of conducting applied health research with relevance to primary care
* A strong record of peer-reviewed publications
* Developing national or international academic collaborations
* Research interests and expertise which build on or complement existing research themes within the Centre for Academic Primary Care
 | * Track record of winning external grant funding
* Experience of managing research
* Experience of supervising junior research staff
* Relevant under-graduate or post-graduate teaching experience
* Knowledge of NHS policy on R&D and modernising the NHS
* Knowledge and experience of ethics and research governance approval systems
* Involved in wider scholastic projects (e.g. peer reviewing grants or papers)
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| **Relevant Qualifications** |
| Essential | Desirable |
| * Good undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline
* Within 5 years of completing PhD on 1 March 2015, in a relevant discipline, or to submit PhD by 1 March 2015 with letter of support from supervisors that no more than minor corrections likely at viva
 | * Masters degree in a relevant discipline
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| **Communication and Interpersonal Skills** |
| Essential | Desirable |
| * Fluent in English with excellent oral and written communication skills
* Commitment to team-working, and respect and consideration for the skills of others
* Ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team, including with health professionals
* Self-motivated, pro-active, innovative, and able to use initiative where appropriate
* Adaptable to situations and able to handle people of all capabilities
* Hardworking and able to prioritise work to meet tight deadlines
* A ‘can do’ attitude
* Willing and able to work collaboratively to ensure the continued success of the Centre and School
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| **Additional Criteria** |
| Essential | Desirable |
| * Commitment to improving the health of patients within the NHS
* Computer literate, including competence in Microsoft Office package
* Competence with relevant data analysis software, for example statistical or qualitative
* Able to travel to other parts of the University or NHS primary care settings to develop research ideas, some of which may not easily accessible by public transport.
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**Centre for Academic Primary Care, University Of Bristol**

The Centre for Academic Primary Care conducts high quality research addressing questions of priority to the NHS. We are a large, friendly and thriving unit within the School of Social and Community Medicine, which includes many world class academics conducting research in different aspects of health services research and epidemiology. The Centre for Academic Primary Care, University of Bristol (<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare>) conducts research within two broad themes. The first is the diagnosis and management of disease in primary care. There are particular strengths in relation to childhood infection, domestic violence, and primary care mental health, and also projects relating to cardiovascular disease, childhood obesity and complementary therapies. The second theme is improving the delivery of primary care. This includes evaluation of new forms of care (for example the role of telehealth), predicting and preventing avoidable hospital admissions, and studies relating to key issues for the future of primary care, including continuity of care, generalism, multimorbidity and improving the management of long term conditions, and commissioning and quality. The Centre for Academic Primary Care, University of Bristol is a member of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (<http://www.spcr.nihr.ac.uk/>), a partnership between eight leading academic centres for primary care research in England.

We offer the expertise of a wide range of academic staff from clinical and non-clinical backgrounds including statisticians, social scientists and economists. We conduct high quality research using a range of methodological approaches, both quantitative and qualitative. Staff within the Centre for Academic Primary Care deliver and are able to access research methods training through a popular and highly rated programme of short methodology courses within the School of Social and Community Medicine. In the 2008 RAE, the Unit had 70% of its submission rated as either of world class or international standard.

Areas of interest of academic staff within the Centre for Academic Primary Care, with details of who to contact for an initial discussion about the Fellowship, include:

* Improving delivery of primary health care, particularly in relation to long term conditions and multimorbidity (C.Salisbury@bristol.ac.uk)
* Domestic violence; management of coronary artery disease in primary care (Gene.Feder@bristol.ac.uk)
* Emergency and urgent care, unplanned hospital admissions, end of life care, primary care dermatology (Sarah.Purdy@bristol.ac.uk)
* Diagnosis and treatment of infections in primary care (Alastair.Hay@bristol.ac.uk)
* Health inequality, substance use, sexual health, data linkage (John.MacLeod@bristol.ac.uk)
* Primary care mental health, CBT, use of technology to deliver mental health interventions

(David.Kessler@bristol.ac.uk)

* Management of childhood obesity in primary care (Katrina.Turner@bristol.ac.uk)
* Design and analysis of randomised controlled trials in primary care, development and
validation of questionnaires (Sara.T.Brookes@bristol.ac.uk)
* Qualitative research methods, patient-practitioner relationships and interaction, patient experiences of illness and healthcare, qualitative evidence synthesis (Ali.Heawood@bristol.ac.uk, Katrina.Turner@bristol.ac.uk, rebecca.barnes@bristol.ac.uk, Jeremy.horwood@bristol.ac.uk)
* Economics of primary health care, methodological issues around economic evaluation in a primary care setting (S.P.Hollinghurst@bristol.ac.uk)

Please see our website [(www.bris.ac.uk/primaryhealthcar](http://www.bris.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare)e) for more information about the range of our interests, current projects, and who best to contact to discuss ideas for the Launching Fellowship. We have a very strong track record in developing research capacity and obtaining externally funded research training awards at all levels, so a post in this Unit provides a superb foundation for a successful academic career.

**Avon Primary Care Research Collaborative (APCRC)**

The Avon Primary Care Research Collaborative is responsible for supporting primary care research, research governance, service evaluation and the use of evidence to underpin decision making, in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups. Our aims are first to build our portfolio of NHS-relevant research through close working with colleagues from local universities and second, to ensure that high quality evaluation is routinely considered as part of every commissioning cycle.

As a research host, APCRC holds a portfolio of 14 primary care National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) grants. This is testament to the success of partnership working between APCRC and the local Universities. Our shared working benefits the local research endeavour by securing investment into locally driven primary care research.

We are innovators in establishing closer working relationships between academia, clinicians and commissioners. We are a member of Bristol Health Partners, and have CCG membership on many Health Integration Teams. Partnership working is at the heart of what we do, and we are proud of our achievements bridging the gap between the NHS and Academic institutes through secondments of staff from the NHS into academia and vice-versa.

**Allowed costs**

Awards will cover the applicant’s salary at I grade level on the University of Bristol pay scale (up to a maximum of £34,233 ).

Funding is available for 18 months full-time equivalent but we will consider applications from individuals who wish to work part-time over a longer period.

**The Launching Fellowship will offer**

* A salaried position to enable you to develop and submit a quality external Fellowship or grant application.
* Access to a range of expertise within the Centre for Academic Primary Care and the wider School of Social and Community Medicine, to support your area of research.
* Advice on crafting your external fellowship or grant application from experienced researchers familiar with your field.
* Guidance through the external fellowship or grant application process from initial concept to submission. This will cover suitable funding sources, costing the proposal, peer review of your application and interview support.
* Access to outstanding career development and training opportunities within the School of Social and Community Medicine and the wider University.

**Application process**

Prior to application, potential candidates should visit the website for the Centre for Academic Primary Care (http://www.bristol.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare/) to find out more about the research themes and current studies within the Centre and identify members of academic staff who could act as mentor(s) to the applicant’s proposed research. Mentors may provide topic or methodological expertise, or both. Potential applicants should make informal contact with at least one staff member from the Centre for Academic Primary Care to discuss their research ideas for *before*submitting their application**.** Potential mentor(s) should be named within the application.

For an informal discussion of the Fellowship opportunity, please contact Dr Rebecca Barnes, rebecca.barnes@bristol.ac.uk , or Dr Ali Heawood,ali.heawood@bristol.ac.uk , at the Centre forAcademic Primary Care, University of Bristol.

Please submit:

* A completed Launching Fellowship application form
* A full CV (including all grants and publications, and the names and contact details of three academic referees)

If a candidate is due to submit their PhD by 1st March 2015, they also need to submit

* A letter of support from their PhD supervisor(s) stating that they expect the candidate to be awarded their PhD with no more than minor corrections at viva

The CV and Application Form (and letter of support, where relevant) should be sent by email to Nancy Horlick, Nancy.Horlick@bristol.ac.uk, by **09:00 (GMT)** on **Monday 12th January 2015.** Please put **APCRC / CAPC Launching Fellowship** as the subject of the email. Documents should be saved with the following file name format: *Familyname\_Firstname\_CV* and *Familyname\_Firstname\_Launching Fellowship Application Form* and *Familyname\_Firstname\_Letter of Support.*

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview at the Centre for Academic Primary Care, University of Bristol. The interview will include a short presentation to the selection panel, detailing the candidate’s proposed programme of work for the Launching Fellowship and plans for the future grant or external Fellowship application. It is anticipated that interviews will take place on **Thursday 22nd January 2015**.