

Job Description

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| Post Title and Post Number | NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Medical Oncology |
| Organisation Advertising Description | College of Medicine and Health |
| Post Number | |
| Full Time/Part Time | Full Time |
| Duration of post | Maximum of 4 years or obtaining CCT, whichever is sooner. There will be 50% time protected for research throughout the programme. |
| Post is open to: | Internal and External Candidates |
| Grade/Level | Clinical. Must hold a current NTN (ST3 or above). Must have a higher research degree (PhD, MD or equivalent); all candidates must have submitted their final thesis to be eligible to apply and must have been fully awarded their higher degree in order to be able to take up the post. The deadline for post take up is 1 Sept 2025. |
| Salary | |
| Terms and Conditions | Clinical |

The Clinical Lectureship in Medical Oncology will be based within the College of Medicine and Health, University of Birmingham. The applicant must have experience in the diagnosis and management of patients with cancer,

The successful applicant will receive continuing training in all aspects of cancer medicine as part of the Medical Oncology SpR rotation. Applicants must have a firm commitment to a career in academic medical oncology. It is intended that the research will focus on laboratory and/or clinical aspects of oncology research which can be accommodated within the programme through the extensive expertise in the College of Medicine and Health, the scope of which is outlined below. Opportunities will be available to participate and lead in several international clinical phase I,II and III clinical trials in oncology recently awarded to University. Applicants will work closely with Professor Gary Middleton (Medical Oncology) and Professor Andrew Beggs (Cancer Genetics).

Description of research component of programme:

The University of Birmingham hosts an extensive cancer research portfolio spanning research disciplines to include over 130 investigators with expertise in Maths, Medicine, Chemistry, Policy, Physics and Engineering. Over the last 4 years the university has been awarded £105.7M for cancer research with awards being received by 52 Allied Health Professionals over this period.

The outstanding clinical and basic science research environment in which trainees are embedded is delivered through **Birmingham Health Partners (BHP)**, a strategic alliance between the University of Birmingham, Aston University, five major NHS partners and the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network. BHP's unique ecosystem enables the full spectrum of translational medicine, encompassing health data, an established local health system, academic excellence, and an extensive clinical trials capability. The new Cancer Inflammation theme of the **NIHR Birmingham Biomedical Research Centre**, recently refunded with significant uplift (£30,717,708), receives 10% of the overarching BRC bid.

Training and researcher capacity building are important BRC-wide activities helping to attract, retain and develop the next generation of research talent that drives our research and innovation. The BRC supports a step-change in our research by supporting and training staff to access our outstanding laboratory, translational medicine and innovation facilities, including extensive clean-room/GMP spaces (£18.3M investment) to deliver new advanced therapies at pace and scale. Our close NHS and University proximity, and links with partners Keele University and Aston University, drives an excellent track record of synergistic academic and NHS research capacity development.

A key new research infrastructure is the **Birmingham Health Innovation Campus (BHIC)** opening this year. BHIC will be the first regional life sciences park, catalysing a powerful cluster of health and life science enterprises across the West Midlands.. Located on BHIC, the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator (PHTA) is UoB 's signature health and life sciences research facility providing 70,000sq ft of state-of-the-art laboratory, incubation, and collaboration space, offering access to clinical research expertise, trials and health data, alongside opportunities to work with academic and clinical opinion leaders.

UoB's **CRUK Clinical Trials Unit (CRCTU)** is an internationally leading centre for the design and delivery of high-quality, biology-rich, practice-changing cancer trials and was recently awarded further 5-year core funding of £10m by CRUK. CRCTU contributes to the education of the next generation of researchers, including an MSc in Clinical Trials and a Massive Open Online Course, 'Introduction to Randomised Controlled Trials'. The CRCTU supports clinical trial fellows, including the CRUK Clinical Trials Training Fellowship programme.

University Hospitals Birmingham leads both the UK's largest Genomic Medicine Centre uniting all 16 participating acute regional NHS Trusts, and the Central and South Genomic Medicine Service Alliance, connecting us with Oxford and Southampton and their ECMC Centres, across a population of ~11 million. Finally, there is planned strategic investment to establish an integrated translational hub for cancer research, bringing together the best discovery science with our distinctive experimental medicine strengths, health data science and clinical trials expertise. The **Birmingham Cancer Research Institute** will be sited in the heart of BHPs integrated academic-NHS-industry campus, providing a nexus for delivery of BHP's integrated cancer research strategy.

Birmingham's delivery of early phase oncology studies is enhanced by its status as a CRUK/NIHR **Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre**. We have been a member of this network of leading cancer research centres since 2007, receiving renewed funding in 2023. Led by Professor Middleton, our ECMC's themes align closely to the network's priorities of Precision Medicine, Immunotherapy, and Biomarkers & Liquid Biopsy.

Research

The Lecturer will build on the existing themes of oncology research at the University of Birmingham and UHBFT, under the direction of Professor Gary Middleton, Professor Andrew Beggs and other PIs within the Department of Cancer and Genomic Sciences and Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy.

Applications are encouraged from candidates with interests in cancer which can be accommodated with one of the basic or clinical research groups within these Institutes. It is envisaged that the main focus of research will be in the field of translational cancer research

trials. The Clinical Lecturer will be offered research facilities and support to help establish his/her research in Birmingham. There will be strong encouragement, in common with other research active staff in the College of Medicine and Health, for the clinical lecturer to obtain funding for his/her research activities during the course of the lectureship.

Clinical Responsibilities

Teaching Responsibilities

The College runs a highly successful Masters Degree in Clinical Oncology and is fully committed to modernising medical careers and integrating clinical teaching within routine practice. We have recently developed MSci programmes, to replace our previous BMedSci and Clinical Sciences BSc, seeking to encourage very capable intercalating cohorts to academically engage with Masters-level training. This course offers students the opportunity to gain a higher level qualification for the cost of a year away from medicine.

The Clinical Lecturer will share in the teaching of Oncology to medical students. The Oncology Group is fully committed to innovative models of teaching including a multidisciplinary team approach. The clinical lecturer may be expected to share in taught course elements. The College has an active Postgraduate Research Programme.

Duties of the Clinical Lecturer

The post will be structured such that it comprises either rotating elements of six months clinical experience and six months dedicated research time, or a weekly split of research to clinical time. Clinical Lecturers will be placed in clinical roles in the Queen Elizabeth hospital, supra-numerary to existing clinical jobs if performed as a weekly split. Ward Rounds and on-going training in Medical Oncology to include clinical administration, CME, postgraduate medical education, management will also be undertaken.

Job Plan

The job plan for the Clinical Lecturer will be set up to protect 50% of the Lecturer's time for academic purposes, including academic training, as well as providing maximal clinical experience. The post holder will be expected to attend Oncology training days as appropriate and will carry a recognised ST Training number.

Publications, presentations and grants

The post-holder will contribute to a range of ongoing clinical research within the College of Medicine and Health and aim to publish in high-impact journals. They will also receive help in securing funding towards increasing independence and personal fellowships by the end of the ACL period.

Academic Lead for the Medical Oncology ACL programme

Informal queries and questions are welcome. Please contact our Medical Oncology Specialty Lead Professor Gary Middleton (G.Middleton@bham.ac.uk) to arrange a Zoom call or meeting.

Academic Lead (University) for the IAT Programme

Prof Kristien Boelaert, IAT Lead at the University of Birmingham: k.boelaert@bham.ac.uk.

Procedure for application

Potential applicants may discuss this appointment with Professor Gary Middleton (g.middleton@bham.ac.uk) and/or Professor Andrew Beggs (a.beggs@bham.ac.uk) and those shortlisted for interview are encouraged to visit the University of Birmingham Medical School to see the facilities and discuss relevant issues with Clinical and Academic staff.

Person Specification

Appendix 1: NIHR CL Supplementary Person Specification

This person specification should be used in conjunction with a person specification for assessment of clinical competences.

| | ESSENTIAL | DESIRABLE | WHEN EVALUATED |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| ELIGIBILITY | <p>Evidence of achievement of Foundation competences or equivalent.</p> <p>Candidate must be at ST3 or above.</p> <p>Must hold a higher degree (MD, PhD or equivalent) in a relevant subject area*.</p> <p>Evidence of good progress in clinical training and that completion of specialty training* may be accommodated either during or after the 4 year period of the NIHR CL award (*Not applicable to fully qualified GP candidates).</p> | <p>Evidence of commitment to GMC specialty.</p> <p>Intercalated honours degree and/or additional qualifications e.g. MSc etc.</p> | Application Form |
| KNOWLEDGE & ACHIEVEMENTS | <p>Demonstration of acquisition of the level of knowledge and skills necessary for the achievement of Foundation and clinical (matched to the entry level) competencies or equivalent.</p> <p>Demonstration of the potential for scientific independence and the ability to lead a research team.</p> <p>Potential to become a leader in chosen field.</p> | <p>Knowledge of the centre hosting the research and how this is best placed to support the research, education and training needs.</p> <p>Prizes or distinctions.</p> <p>Presentation of work at a national or international meeting.</p> <p>Significant publications in peer reviewed journals.</p> | Application Form and Selection Centre |

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| <p>EDUCATIONAL & PERSONAL ASPECTS</p> | <p>Demonstration of understanding, and commitment to, an academic career.</p> <p>Indication of medium and long-term career goals.</p> <p>Demonstration of educational reasons for applying for the Clinical Lectureship Programme.</p> | | <p>Application Form</p> |
| <p>PROFESSIONAL SKILLS</p> | <p>Evidence of team working skills.</p> <p>Evidence of leadership potential.</p> | | <p>Application Form and Selection Centre</p> |

* All candidates should have submitted their final thesis to be eligible to apply, and must have been fully awarded their higher degree in order to be able to take up the post (prior to September 1st 2025).