



THE POST

College:	College of Medicine and Health
Post:	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Reference No:	P68116
Grade:	F
HERA:	RFEL
Reporting To:	Iain Lang

This post is available from 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2024 within the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration South West Peninsula (PenARC) and based at the University of Exeter Medical School in the College of Medicine and Health. The post is available full-time but other working patterns will be considered.

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

The **College of Medicine and Health** wishes to appoint a Postdoctoral Research Fellow to work on projects related to implementation science and knowledge mobilisation in health services research. This post will be funded from an NIHR award and the post-holder will be expected to provide support to research projects adopted by PenARC, to actively identify and develop research and implementation ideas relevant to PenARC's aims, and to contribute to the securing of external funding to support these. We wish to develop PenARC's capacity in implementation science and related fields (knowledge mobilisation, knowledge translation, quality improvement, etc.). Applicants with existing experience in and knowledge of these fields, whether from healthcare or other sectors, are particularly welcome to apply.

In our research and associated educational activity PenARC staff, researchers, and collaborators seek to develop existing partnerships between health researchers and NHS and other relevant organisations in the South West Peninsula in order to reach this objective. In particular, our close ongoing collaboration with the South West Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) enriches the opportunities for joint working on a range of potential projects.

PenARC

In 2018 The NIHR launched a new competition to designate and fund NIHR Applied Research Collaborations (NIHR ARCs), a new approach to the NIHR CLAHRCs of previous years. PenCLAHRC submitted their application to the NIHR to secure designation and funding for five years as an NIHR ARC in autumn 2018, and are now able to confirm the success of their application.

The new funding is part of a £135 million government investment in health research aimed at tackling the biggest challenges the health and care system faces over the next five years including dementia, obesity and mental health. A total of fifteen partnerships across England, made up of NHS organisations, social care services, leading academics, innovators, and local authorities, have been awarded funding through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for ground-breaking new projects that will address the increasing demands on the NHS and give patients greater independence and choice about how they manage their healthcare.

NIHR ARCs are successors to CLAHRCs NIHR Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRCs).

For more information about our work please visit our website: <http://clahrc-peninsula.nihr.ac.uk/>

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study. The responsibilities may include all or some of the following:
 - Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
 - Developing research objectives, projects and proposals;
 - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
 - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
 - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
 - Writing or contributing to publications or disseminating research findings using media appropriate to the discipline;
 - Making presentations at conferences or exhibiting work in other appropriate events;
 - Assessing, interpreting and evaluating outcomes of research;
 - Developing new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding;
 - Resolving problems of meeting research objectives and deadlines;
 - Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
 - Developing ideas for application of research outcomes;
 - Deciding on /following research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and sometimes subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.
2. To contribute to capacity building/training and teaching and learning programmes in the School and to supervise postgraduate research students.
3. To act as research team leader including:
 - Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
 - Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
 - Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
 - Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
 - Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
 - Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.
4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.
5. As determined by the nature of the project and at the direction of the PI, to plan, co-ordinate and implement research programme activity including:
 - Managing the use of research resources and ensuring that effective use is made of them;
 - Monitoring and reporting on the use of research budgets;
 - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
 - Where appropriate, to plan and manage own consultancy assignments.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

Person Specification

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Attainments/Qualifications	<p>PhD or equivalent qualification or professional experience relevant to implementation science (e.g. a related area of sociology, psychology, anthropology, or health sciences)</p>	Be a nationally recognised authority in the subject area.
Skills and Understanding	<p>Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in implementation science to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies.</p> <p>Record of research output in high quality publications.</p> <p>Understanding of the role in health services research of patient and public involvement and of co-producing research with knowledge users</p> <p>Knowledge of existing literature on implementation or improvement science</p> <p>Ability to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities</p>	<p>Expertise in one or more of a range of research skills related to implementation science methodologies and theories, including (but not limited to) health and social care services research and evaluation methods, realist methods, action research, and relevant quantitative methods</p> <p>Ability to navigate the complex inter-relationships in NHS or other health and social care organisations and evidence of successful working across the organisational interfaces (e.g. primary/secondary care; public health/ clinical care/ social care; commissioners/ providers)</p>
Prior Experience	<p>Experience of working both independently and collaboratively on research or implementation projects with proven success in working as part of a team developing ideas or methods with peers</p> <p>Experience of managing research projects and research teams.</p> <p>Experience of applying for competitive grant funding</p> <p>Extensive experience of conducting research on health and social care services or related topics and of producing peer-reviewed publications and presenting findings to a variety of audiences (academics, practitioners, clinicians, service users, public)</p>	<p>Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects</p> <p>Experience of working in or with the NHS or other relevant organisations</p> <p>Experience of applying academic expertise or research evidence to help solve practical problems</p> <p>Success in obtaining external grant funding</p> <p>Experience of building capacity to use / apply research findings and/or support implementation efforts by health and social care clinicians and practitioners</p> <p>Experience of undergraduate /postgraduate teaching and supervision.</p>
Behavioural Characteristics	<p>Excellent written and verbal communication skills.</p> <p>Able to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups verbally, in writing, and using other media.</p>	.

	<p>Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking.</p> <p>Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines.</p> <p>Ability to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines</p> <p>Commitment to engaging in continuous professional development.</p> <p>Understanding of equal opportunities issues as they may impact on health and social care services research</p>	
Circumstances	The post may involve some travel to sites across Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset.	

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Dr Iain Lang I.Lang@exeter.ac.uk 01392 726087 or 07500 786180, or Dr Jo Day J.K.Day@exeter.ac.uk 01392 726089

Terms & Conditions

Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed [here](#).

Further Information

Please see our [website](#) for further information on working at the University of Exeter.