



The NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) supported by Health Innovation Manchester are investing in the next generation of researchers, providing an exciting opportunity for trainee and qualified nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health professionals to gain the knowledge and skills needed to undertake high quality experimental medicine and translational research.

Working in collaboration with the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility (CRF) and supported by Health Innovation Manchester, the Manchester BRC are offering short, flexible experimental medicine placements for new and aspiring researchers from a range of backgrounds, including nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health professionals. The call is also open to medical, nursing, midwifery and other healthcare students at The University of Manchester wanting to gain exposure in clinical research during their studies.

Placements will be through virtual means and therefore require applicants to have IT access whether through personal or workplace facilities. Face-to-face arrangements may be possible in line with future Government Regulations. We strongly encourage applicants to apply if you do not have IT access and we will endeavour to facilitate arrangements.

The placements are designed to give hands-on experience of experimental medicine within an active clinical research setting. Bespoke training will include: core clinical research skills, participant care, consent and research governance. No previous background of research is required to apply.

## What is the NIHR Manchester BRC?

The Manchester BRC is a group of expert clinical academics who conduct translational research across seven research themes to transform scientific breakthroughs into life-saving treatments and diagnostics for patients.

The BRC drives forward pioneering research in the areas of: musculoskeletal disease, hearing health, respiratory disease, dermatology and three cancer themes (prevention and early detection, radiotherapy and precision medicine).

The Rapid Translational Incubator, Biomarker Platforms and Informatics and Data Sciences cross cutting themes enable the Manchester BRC to rapidly translate scientific discoveries into new tests, treatments, devices and preventative measures that benefit patients.

For more information visit [www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk)

## What is the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility?

The Manchester CRF provides facilities for early phase clinical research studies in adults and children. Manchester CRF provides a safe, quality assured environment for delivering clinical research studies across three sites in Greater Manchester.

The Manchester CRF provides operational support services to assist investigators undertaking high-quality early phase research across a diverse range of clinical areas. Manchester CRF can support placement participants to gain experience in good clinical practice, informed consent, observing a trial and experience of working with a multidisciplinary research team. The Education and Training co-ordinators have links with the CRF and can help facilitate access and put you in touch with contacts at the Oxford Road, the Christie and Wythenshawe sites.

For more information visit <https://research.cmf.nhs.uk/facilities-services/clinical-research-facility>

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## What is Health Innovation Manchester?

Health Innovation Manchester is an Academic Health Science System (AHSS) established to drive proven innovation into health and social care services at pace.

Leveraging the exceptional academic and clinical assets of the city region, we bring together basic research, translational research, clinical demand, and industry know-how and investment under a single umbrella; focused wholly on the needs of a population of 2.8m people.

Our role is to seek out and bring forward a constant flow of (industry led) innovations, accelerating them through the evaluation process and supporting them through our devolved decision-making structures so they are accepted at pace system-wide.

Operating within a devolved health and social care system enables us to create a unique infrastructure and environment for industry innovators to flourish - with a single gateway and innovation pathway, world-class informatics infrastructure, clear view of system needs, and processes that enable speedier and more accurate decisions.

For more information visit [www.healthinnovationmanchester.com](http://www.healthinnovationmanchester.com)

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## Information on the Manchester BRC Research Themes



Predicting the effectiveness of different types of radiation and drug-radiation combinations, as well as minimising the risk of long-term side effects.



Developing liquid biopsy techniques (simple blood tests) to match patients to treatments most likely to work for them.



Exploring ways to deliver effective and efficient hearing health, across the lifespan, from preventing potentially devastating inherited deafness through to age-related deafness.



Working towards earlier diagnosis and a more targeted approach, matching individuals with respiratory diseases to the most effective treatment for them.



Improving prevention and early detection strategies by developing the early markers needed to diagnose cancer sooner and rapidly identify whether a treatment is having the desired response.



Addressing unmet clinical needs for complex wounds, psoriasis, hair loss and light-sensitive conditions by identifying markers and tools to personalise treatment plans.



Focusing on the prevention of arthritis, as well as developing new treatment approaches to musculoskeletal diseases in adults and children and new tests to improve personalisation of treatment.

For more information please visit the Manchester BRC website

[www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk)

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## Why people should get involved?

Highly skilled scientists and clinical researchers across all healthcare professions are essential for the discovery of new ways to advance treatments to improve people's health.

## What's in it for participants?

- Gain first-hand experience of how clinical research is undertaken in the NHS
- Explore opportunities for further engagement in:
  - Clinical research
  - Postgraduate degree study at Masters and/or PhD levels Training and vocational courses offered within our partnership
- Collaborate with senior clinical academics in delivering a short research project
- Enhance your knowledge of experimental medicine, especially in a clinical research context

## What's in it for employers or the University in releasing students?

- Receiving backfill for the pay of staff who undertake a placement (Employers only)
- Assisting you in releasing staff or your students to join the initiative through flexible placements:
  - placements can be attended in week blocks
  - on a day release basis
  - negotiable placement start and end dates
- Enhancing the career development of your staff or student through a unique training opportunity
- Facilitating your staff or student to bring new skillsets and knowledge into their work environment or programme of study
- Help shape the future of the Manchester BRC Placements scheme through feedback
- Joining collaborative networks involved in healthcare and higher education in Manchester
- Contribute to the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership strategy of improving patient outcomes through upskilling the workforce
- Play a role in aligning the efforts of healthcare partners and deepening Greater Manchester's health science ecosystem

## What's in it for us?

- Inspiring NHS staff from a range of different backgrounds and medics to engage in clinical research
- Provision of an entry route to increase clinical research capacity in the NHS
- Build collaboration between employers, Manchester BRC, Manchester CRF, The University of Manchester and other Manchester Corridor organisations
- Demonstrate the breadth of career development training on offer through the Manchester BRC
- Improve the standards and understanding of experimental medicine research
- Impact the longer term clinical research landscape in Manchester and beyond

## Information for Applicants - How the placements will work

Each placement is personalised to ensure it is relevant and based on the experience and knowledge of the individual undertaking it, as well as their learning and development needs.

Prior to the start of the placement and in consultation with their project supervisor, each successful applicant will be given a personalised induction and learning objective plan. This will form the basis of the placement and act as a benchmark for progress. Your schedule of attendance, in conjunction with your employer, will also be agreed. Rather than running this like a taught degree course, we also want to give you a taster of what research courses are like; working closely with a supervisor to decide what are important aspects to learn more about and where to focus work efforts; rather than prescribing a set menu for everyone.

The placements will consist of two main aspects, the project itself and information designed to help you understand how clinical research works in practice. For applicants applying in the 2020-21 cycle, the placement must have begun by **30th September 2021**.

At the end of your placement, you'll have a meeting with your supervisor to go through what you've learnt and discuss other ways you could continue to pursue your interest in research. There will also be opportunities for you to provide feedback on how you've found the placement and feed into our continual improvement. If you work **part-time**, you are welcome to attend the placement on your day(s) off; this would not require managerial sign off. We would welcome such applications, although there will be no transfer of payment, except for work days being missed as a result of the placement.

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## Information for employers - How the placements will work

Once you have given your consent for someone to apply and filled in the employer support form, we will work together to agree the schedule of attendance, which can be flexible in terms of attendance style (day release to weekly attendance). Placements can begin at any time provided the project supervisor agrees, until the **30 September 2021** so you can plan this to avoid potentially busy times or have sufficient time to arrange backfill.

Once the placement is concluded, we'll ask if you could please provide us with feedback, and have a discussion with your member of staff (of course we will be doing this as well), and help them reflect on what they have learnt and what further steps they might consider.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for this scheme you must meet the following requirements:

- Currently working as a nurse, midwife, pharmacist, or [allied health professional](#)
- Currently a University of Manchester Medical, Nursing, Midwifery and other Healthcare Student
- No previous research experience is required
- For applicants applying in the 2020-21 cycle, the placement must have begun by **30 September 2021**
- In order for your employer to receive backfill, you must be attending the placement on days you would otherwise be in work
- Not be part of a Scientist Training Programme (STP) or other similar schemes, nor studying a PhD or other research based courses
- Priority will be given to those currently employed by a Greater Manchester NHS trust

## ***BRC Placement Application Form (For applicants employed by NHS)***

*This should be completed and emailed with your current CV and your employer support form (completed by your authorising manager) to [brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk) by Wednesday 3 February 2021*  
*Please complete electronically and read the declaration at the bottom of the form, the table should expand as you type.*

Personal/Employer Details:	
Title (Mr, Miss, Mrs, Dr etc.)	
Registered Body (HCPC/GPhC etc.) & Registration number	
First Name (s)	
Surname	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)	
Home Address (or alternative mailing address e.g. work)	
Contact Telephone Number	
Email (for all communication)	
Current Occupation	
NHS Pay Grade	
Name of Authorising Manager	
Authorising Manager email address	
Do you have computer access to a personal or work/University laptop or computer?	
Proposed number of work days that would be missed to attend	
Proposed number of days for attendance not part of paid employment	

<p><b>If unsuccessful, I wish to be contacted in the future when this scheme is again open for applications</b> (Please tick this box and we will retain your email for future opportunities, if you do not tick this box, you will not receive this email)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Previous Research Experience (if any)</b></p>	
<p><b>Please detail any experience you have previously had of research, note this isn't a requirement, we expect most people will not have any</b></p>	
<p><b>Choice of Project</b> (150 words maximum per answer)</p>	
<p><b>Which project are you most interested in?</b></p>	
<p><b>What aspects of this project interest you?</b></p>	
<p><b>What makes you a suitable candidate for this project?</b></p>	
<p><b>What would you expect to learn from this placement?</b></p>	
<p><b>Future Aims and Objectives</b> (150 words maximum per answer)</p>	
<p><b>How would you look to apply the experience gained</b></p>	

through the placement?	
Are you considering any further research related training/study in the next five years?	
If we cannot offer you the project you are interested in, we may be able to offer an alternative, so if there are other projects you may be interested in, please write the titles in this box.	

**CONFIDENTIALITY AND THE SHARING OF INFORMATION**

The information contained in this application will be used for the purpose of processing your application and, if you are admitted, will be held by The University of Manchester and NIHR. All data is held and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Before you start the placement, it is important that you are aware that there are certain circumstances in which confidential information about you may need to be shared between the placement team and your employer. This may be, for example:

- Where there are significant concerns about your conduct whilst undertaking the placement.
- Upon completion of the placement

If you have any objections to the sharing of confidential information, between the placement team and your employer, this need to be resolved before the application is submitted; **submission of the application is explicit acceptance of the above statement.**

**By submitting this form to [brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk), you confirm you have read and agreed to the below statement:**

I certify that the information given in this application and in the supporting documents is accurate and complete. I understand that the submission of false, misleading, or inaccurate information may be sufficient cause for refusal of admission or termination of registration.

## ***BRC Placement Application Form (Own Project Proposal)***

*This should be completed and emailed with your current CV and your employer support form (completed by your authorising manager) to [brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk) by Wednesday 3 February 2021*  
*Please complete electronically and read the declaration at the bottom of the form, the table should expand as you type.*

Personal/Employer Details:	
Title (Mr, Miss, Mrs, Dr etc.)	
Registered Body (HCPC/GPhC etc.) & Registration number	
First Name (s)	
Surname	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)	
Home Address (or alternative mailing address e.g. work)	
Contact Telephone Number	
Email (for all communication)	
Current Occupation	
NHS Pay Grade	
Name of Authorising Manager	
Authorising Manager email address	
Do you have computer access to a personal or work/University laptop or computer?	
Contact Email address for Finance Department (to receive purchase order for backfill payment)	
Proposed number of work days that would be missed to attend	

<p><b>Proposed number of days for attendance not part of paid employment</b></p>	
<p><b>If unsuccessful, I wish to be contacted in the future when this scheme is again open for applications</b> (Please tick this box and we will retain your email for future opportunities, if you do not tick this box, you will not receive this email)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Previous Research Experience (if any)</b></p>	
<p><b>Please detail any experience you have previously had of research, note this isn't a requirement, we expect most people will not have any</b></p>	
<p><b>Project Proposal details</b></p>	
<p><b>Proposed Project supervisor name:</b></p>	
<p><b>BRC Theme:</b></p>	
<p><b>Title of project:</b></p>	
<p><b>Research Question:</b></p>	
<p><b>What would you like to achievement within the placement?</b></p>	
<p><b>Future Aims and Objectives</b> (150 words maximum per answer)</p>	
<p><b>How would you look to apply the experience gained through the placement?</b></p>	

<p><b>Are you considering any further research related training/study in the next five years?</b></p>	
<p><b>If we cannot offer you the project you are interested in, we may be able to offer an alternative, so if there are other projects you may be interested in, please write the titles in this box.</b></p>	

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- Where there are significant concerns about your conduct whilst undertaking the placement.
- Upon completion of the placement

If you have any objections to the sharing of confidential information, between the placement team and your employer, this need to be resolved before the application is submitted; **submission of the application is explicit acceptance of the above statement.**

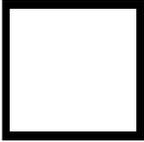
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I certify that the information given in this application and in the supporting documents is accurate and complete. I understand that the submission of false, misleading, or inaccurate information may be sufficient cause for refusal of admission or termination of registration.

## ***BRC Placement Employer Support Form (for NHS Staff Only)***

*This form should be completed by a manager with sufficient authority to release the candidate. Forms will be checked for authenticity, should an applicant be approached and offered a placement. Please note the backfill offered for this placement must be used specifically for this purpose.*

<b>Applicant Details:</b>	
<b>Full Name</b>	
<b>Project Applied for</b>	
<b>Total backfill required (given specific salary of applicant) if known <small>*See Note Below*</small></b>	£
<b>Required number of days for applicant to be absent from regular work if successful</b>	
<b>Would you want to release them in a block (i.e. six weeks continuous) or day release (i.e. 2 days a week for 10 weeks/1 day a week for 20 weeks)</b>	
<b>Authorising Manager's Supporting Statement for Application:</b>	
<b>Why would this candidate be suitable for undertaking this placement?</b>	
<b>How would you like to see the applicant apply the experience gained through the placement</b>	
<b>Authorising Manager Details:</b>	
<b>First name</b>	
<b>Surname</b>	
<b>Contact Telephone Number (work)</b>	

Email (for all communication)	
Current Occupation	
<b>Authorising Manager Confirmation of support:</b>	
<p>I confirm permission for the above named applicant to be absent from their usual work during the period specified and have the required authority to release them</p>	
<p><b>Signature</b> <b>(Electronic is acceptable)</b></p>	

**\* Special note around Backfill:**

Exactly what is written on the employer support form will be used for the backfill calculation. Please ensure this is correct, it should be calculated as the exact amount as per the **employee's specific band**, and **be inclusive of any pension contributions, income tax & employer NI contributions**, i.e. the exact amount the employer would pay, opposed to what the employee would receive.

In order for backfill to be paid, an employee must be leaving their regular job to attend the placement, i.e. no money will be paid if a candidate works part time and attends the placement on a day they would not usually be in work.

## ***BRC Placement Application Form (University of Manchester Students Only)***

*This should be completed and emailed with your current CV to [brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:brcplacements@manchester.ac.uk) by Wednesday 3 February 2021. If successful, approval from supervisor will be obtained.*

*Please complete electronically and read the declaration at the bottom of the form, the table should expand as you type.*

<b>University of Manchester student ID number:</b>	
<b>Programme of Study and Year of study:</b>	
<b>Title (Mr, Miss, Mrs, Dr etc.)</b>	
<b>Registered Body (HCPC/GPhC etc.) &amp; Registration number (if any)</b>	
<b>First Name (s)</b>	
<b>Surname</b>	
<b>Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)</b>	
<b>Contact Telephone Number</b>	
<b>Email (for all communication)</b>	
<b>Name of University Supervisor or Programme Director:</b>	
<b>Contact Email for University Supervisor or Programme Director:</b>	
<b>Do you have computer access to a personal or University laptop or computer?</b>	
<b>If unsuccessful, I wish to be contacted in the future when this scheme is again open for applications (Please tick this box and we will retain your email for future opportunities, if you do not tick this box, you will not receive this email)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Previous Research Experience (if any)</b>	
<b>Please detail any experience you have previously had of research, note this isn't a requirement, we expect most people will not have any</b>	
<b>Choice of Project</b> (150 words maximum per answer)	
<b>Which project are you most interested in?</b>	
<b>What aspects of this project interest you?</b>	
<b>What makes you a suitable candidate for this project?</b>	
<b>What would you expect to learn from this placement?</b>	
<b>Future Aims and Objectives</b> (150 words maximum per answer)	
<b>How would you look to apply the experience gained through the placement?</b>	
<b>Are you considering any further research related</b>	

<p><b>training/study in the next five years?</b></p>	
<p><b>If we cannot offer you the project you are interested in, we may be able to offer an alternative, so if there are other projects you may be interested in, please write the titles in this box.</b></p>	

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