

**Job Title:** Research Fellow in Medical Statistics

**Grade:** 8

**Salary:** £44,706 to £50,296 per annum (pro rata if part time)

**Department:** Health Sciences

**Hours/Contract:** Full time, (or job share/part time considered to min 0.7FTE, 26.25 hours per week). Fixed term until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

**Job Family:** Teaching and Research

**Reference:** 4843

## Role Purpose

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is the nation's largest funder of health and care research and provides the people, facilities and technology that enables research to thrive. NIHR Applied Research Collaborations (ARCs) support applied health and care research that responds to, and meets, the needs of local populations and local health and care systems. The NIHR ARC East Midlands (EM) is one of 15 ARCs across England, part of a £135 million investment by the NIHR to improve the health and care of patients and the public.

The clinical themes ARC EM focuses on include: (i) Building Community Resilience and Enabling Independence; (ii) Mental Health and Wellbeing; (iii) Managing Multimorbidity. There are also three-cutting themes: (i) Translating and Implementing Sustainable Service Improvement; (ii) Ethnicity and Health Inequalities; (iii) Data2Health (Health Data Science). Additionally, ARC EM will also lead nationally on research into black and minority ethnic communities and multimorbidity thanks to its expertise in these areas.

The Data2Health theme will focus on methodological translation – ensuring that appropriate, innovative and fully evaluated methods are used to inform the design and analysis of ARC EM research studies. It will also ensure maximal use of existing large-scale linked data resources to address important questions for patients, the public and care services, both locally and nationally.

The post holder for this role will independently undertake methodological research to inform the design and analysis of studies undertaken by NIHR ARC East Midlands as part of the Data2Health theme as well as liaising with other colleagues undertaking relevant methodological research both locally and nationally, especially those within Health Data Research (HDR) UK.

The post holder will be based in the Biostatistics Research Group (BRG) within the Department of Health Sciences. BRG specialises in the development, application and teaching of statistical methods in medical research with the ultimate aim of improving the health of the population. The group focuses on two complementary methodological areas: (1) Modelling disease history (includes epidemiology, survival analysis, prediction modelling); (2) Health technology assessment (includes novel trial design, health economics, evidence synthesis). A particular strength of the group is the transferral of novel statistical methodology into practice through the development of software, use of novel methods in applied studies through collaboration with both internal and external clinicians, development of guidelines for policy-makers and teaching on specialist courses.

## Resources Managed

The post holder will manage the programme of work conducted by the Data2health theme, reporting to the theme lead and deputy theme lead. The post holder will support other members of the Data2Health theme and will be encouraged to co-supervise PhD students.





**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

- To lead and undertake a programme of methodological research to inform the design and analysis of studies undertaken by NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) East Midlands. The methods of interest include evidence synthesis, design and analysis of efficient pragmatic clinical trials and observational studies and modelling of the natural history of disease/prognosis using real world evidence.
- To liaise with other ARC East Midlands theme leads and other ARCs nationally to ensure the methodological research conducted is of relevance and the results are disseminated and implemented.
- To advise on the design and analysis of applied health research studies.
- To take lead in writing up and presenting research findings locally and nationally, as well as for dissemination in peer-reviewed journals and conferences.
- To horizon scan to identify new priority areas for methods research and translation.

**Internal and External Relationships**

Internal: The post holder will be based in the Biostatistics Research Group, Department of Health Sciences, but will also collaborate with applied health researchers from across the University, specifically from the Diabetes Research Centre.

External: The post holder will regularly collaborate with other applied health researchers and stakeholders who are part of ARC East Midlands as well as with members from other ARCs nationally.

**Planning and Organising**

The post holder will be required to effectively manage their time to plan their research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the programme.  
They will be required to attend internal and national meetings.

**Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience**

**Essential**

- PhD or equivalent experience in a relevant subject (e.g. Medical Statistics)\*
- Experience of undertaking methodological research in one or more of the priority areas (evidence synthesis, design and analysis of efficient pragmatic clinical trials and observational studies, and modelling of the natural history of disease/prognosis using real world evidence)\*
- Experience of analysing existing large-scale linked data\*
- Track record of publication of high quality journal papers rated at 3\*/4\* (or equivalent)\*
- Evidence of developing a national/international research profile
- Experience of delivering work to agreed deadlines
- Ability to write concisely and clearly





**Desirable**

- Experience of designing and/or analysing applied health research studies\*
- Experience of undertaking simulation studies\*

**Skills, Abilities and Competencies**

**Essential**

- High level of proficiency in English
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills for high quality publications and presentations
- Good IT skills, including use of Microsoft Office applications, e-mail and the internet\*
- Excellent interpersonal skills including effective communications with people from i) different scientific disciplines, and ii) different institutions across the country
- Good work ethic and ability to work effectively as part of a team and independently
- Excellent time management and organisational skills with the ability to work to tight deadlines
- Ability to work independently and also as part of a research team
- Ability to develop and/or present teaching materials

**Desirable**

- Ability to engage and communicate with non-researchers
- Experience of writing or contributing to research proposals

***\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

**Reason for Fixed Term Contract**

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

**Criminal Declaration**

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

**Supporting University Activities**

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

**University Values**





**Inclusive** - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

**Inspiring** - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

**Impactful** - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

## Equality and Diversity

We believe that equality, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

