

**Job Description**

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| Job Title: | Researcher (ENHANCE) |
| Faculty/Professional Directorate: | Faculty of Health Sciences/Hull York Medical School |
| Subject Group/Team: | Academy of Primary Care |
| Reporting to: | Professor Joanne Reeve |
| Duration: | Available from 1/8/2024 for 12 months in first instance |
| Job Family:  | Academic |
| Pay Band: | 6 |
| Benchmark Profile: | Research Band 6 |
| DBS Disclosure requirement: | Yes |
| Vacancy Reference: |  |

**Details Specific to the Post**

**Background and Context**

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and well-organised research associate to work with the Academy of Primary Care to deliver the ENHANCE study.

The [Academy of Primary Care](https://www.hyms.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/academy-of-primary-care) is at the forefront of research and best practice in primary care in our region and beyond. We deliver innovative research that aims to improve whole person health and healthcare. We are looking to welcome a new researcher to our team to support delivery of the ENHANCE study.

ENHANCE (TailorEd iNtervention for brain HeAlth aNd Cognitive augmentation) is an NIHR funded Programme Grant that will test a novel intervention aiming to reduce modifiable risk factors for dementia in underserved populations. These risks are known to cluster within socioeconomically deprived and ethnically diverse populations. Humber and the surrounding region is a key recruitment site for testing the intervention.

ENHANCE is led by a team at UCL, London. The team have co-developed an intervention that uses digital technology (a bespoke app) combined with coaching techniques to facilitate behavioural change in participants to address 10 targeted risk factors for developing dementia. The intervention is now ready for feasibility testing at sites around the UK.

The researcher appointed to this post will deliver the field work here in the northeast. You will work closely with the UCL programme manager and practices here in the northeast to recruit and consent participants to the feasibility study and facilitate all aspects of the study.

You will join a multi-professional expert team delivering this research – including a programme manager and other research assistants (based in London); as well as public partners, doctors, psychologists, policy leads, managers, an app development company, health economists and human-computer interaction experts.

The post is funded initially for the duration of the feasibility study (12 months). If the feasibility study is successful, the project will continue to a full Randomised Controlled Trial with funding for a further 3 years (making 4 years in total).

The post is available full time, with applications to work part-time or job share welcomed.

### Specific Duties and Responsibilities of the post

This is an entry level post and may be suitable for those planning to train and develop their research skills so that they may take on a more senior research post in the future. You will receive close supervision and direction from more senior colleagues and will receive academic, pastoral support and guidance which may include specific training, career counselling and mentoring.

The main focus of the work will involve the generation or collection of data using standard methods which have been developed by others. You will assist with analysis and interpretation of results and the drafting of research reports and publications.

*Responsibilities*

Recruitment: You will work closely with key study stakeholders to recruit primary care practices and pateints to the study. This includes liaising with practices to explain the study, and ensure they understand how patients can be recruited to the research. You will also work closely with patients who express interest in joining the study – explaining the study, obtaining informed consent, and then baseline data collection.

Participating in intervention delivery activites: You will also be trained to support practice staff and participating patients in using the intervention as part of a coaching role.

Collecting quantitative outcome data: You will collect follow up data and be responsible for safely and effectively sharing all the site specific data with the trials unit at UCL.

Contributing to writing up reports: You will be part of the team evaluating the data from the feasibility study to be presented to NIHR at the end of this stage of the research.

Contributing to effective working of the project: Including attending departmental meetings; arranging and attending other meetings as required for the running of the study; ensuring the project is run to agreed standards and to the agreed timetable. Any other duties appropriate to your grade and experience as directed by the project lead (Professor Reeve)

Additionally the post holder will be required to

* Fulfil the employees’ duties described in the University’s health and safety policies and co-operate with the health and safety arrangements in place within the department. May be required to undertake specific health and safety roles on request e.g. Display screen equipment assessor, departmental safety officer, fire warden
* Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices This includes undertaking mandatory equality and diversity training
* Comply with University regulations, policies and procedures

If findings from this feasibility study are supportive, we anticipate NIHR will release funding for the full RCT of ENHANCE which will commence in 2025. You will then be a key member of the team responsible for recruitment and data collection in the full trial.

You will be based at HYMS but be required to travel out to sites in the region. You may need, on one or two occasions, to travel to London to meet with the core team for training events and occasionally to other research sites in the England.

In your covering letter please refer directly to the criteria given in the person specification below.  Applications are assessed by the selection panel according to these criteria.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION – Research Band 6**

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| **Specification** | **Essential**  | **Desirable** | **Examples Measured by** |
| **Education and Training** | * BSc, BA (2:1 or higher) or Masters degree in relevant discipline
 | * Working towards a PhD in relevant discipline
 | ApplicationInterview |
| **Work Experience** | **Evidence of:*** Recruiting participants to research studies
* Data collection
* Drafting reports on research activities
* Using Microsoft packages (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
 | * Undertaking research in the general practice/community setting
* Mental health or dementia research experience
* Data analysis and interpretation of results
 | ApplicationInterview  |
| **Skills and Knowledge** | **Evidence of :*** Excellent interpersonal and oral communication skills
* Excellent written communication skills
* Excellent organisational skills including time management and ability to work to deadlines
* Quantitative and qualitative skills training (further training will be provided)
* Self-motivation to work independently and as part of a team
 | * Experience of conducting qualitative interviews
* Experience of working with patients/community members
 | ApplicationInterview  |
| **Personal Qualities** | **Evidence of:*** Working in an open and transparent way, providing information and communicating effectively with colleagues
* Continuous Professional Development.
* Able to travel to research sites
 |  | ApplicationInterview  |