

RESEARCH FELLOW



Job Title:	Research Fellow
Department:	Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health
Faculty:	Epidemiology and Population Health
Location:	Keppel Street, London
FTE:	1
Grade:	G6
Accountable to:	Dr Kathryn Mansfield
Job Summary:	<p>We are seeking to recruit a medical statistician or an epidemiologist with experience using electronic health records for observational research to join the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) in Immunisation at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.</p> <p>The NIHR HPRU in Immunisation is a partnership between the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, in collaboration with the University of Cambridge. The HPRU has three research themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme 1: Making the most of real-world data • Theme 2: Saving lives, optimising taxpayers' investment • Theme 3: Immunisation delivery systems and public interactions with vaccines <p>The successful candidate will work as part of the HPRU's 'Making the most of real-world data' theme. Theme 1 aims to increase vaccine coverage and support a data-driven immunisation programme by making the most of digital technologies and linked electronic health records. Theme 1's research programme includes studies of inequalities in infectious disease burden and vaccine uptake; vaccine safety, effectiveness, and impact; and approaches to better use of data in the delivery and evaluation of the immunisation programme.</p> <p>The successful candidate will be a statistician or an epidemiologist with experience in conducting and leading epidemiological studies using linked electronic health records, ideally including the Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD). The post requires strong data management and quantitative skills with expertise in a common statistical package (e.g., Stata/R).</p> <p>The post is based within the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. The post holder will work in close partnership with UKHSA colleagues, and with colleagues across LSHTM including the HPRU, the Electronic Health Records Group, and the Vaccine Centre.</p>

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing education in public and global health.

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements in contribution to improving health worldwide. We believe that when people feel respected and included, they can be more creative, successful, and happier at work. While we have more work to do, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace, a community that everyone feels a part of, which is safe, respectful, supportive and enables all to reach their full potential.

To discover more about LSHTM please click [here](#).

Our Values

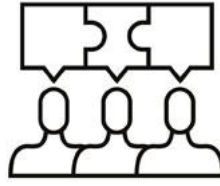
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. To find out more please click [here](#).



**Act with
integrity**



**Embrace
difference**



**Work
together**



**Create
impact**

Faculty Information

The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH) houses a large group of epidemiologists, demographers, statisticians and nutritionists working on major issues of importance to public health provision in the UK and globally. EPH employs approximately 560 people in five research departments.

- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics
- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health
- Department of Medical Statistics, which includes the Clinical Trials Unit
- Department of Non-communicable Disease Epidemiology
- Department of Population Health

The Faculty has a postgraduate teaching programme including eleven intensive MSc courses: Epidemiology, Demography and Health, Medical Statistics, Health Data Science, Public Health for Development (jointly with Faculties of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and Public Health & Policy), Nutrition for Global Health, Global Mental Health (jointly with Kings College London, Institute of Psychiatry), Reproductive & Sexual Health Research, Sexual & Reproductive Health Policy and Practice (online), Veterinary Epidemiology (run jointly with the Royal Veterinary College) and Climate Change and Planetary Health. There are also three distance Learning MSc courses: Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Demography in Health. The Faculty also has approximately 120 research students studying for an MPhil, PhD or DrPH degree.

The Dean of Faculty is Professor Elizabeth Allen.

Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and International Health

The Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (IDE) conducts research on the epidemiology and control of infectious diseases of public health importance. Work is carried out in low-, middle- and high-income countries, including the United Kingdom, in close collaboration with partners in each country. The Department has groups working on maternal, neonatal and child health; international statistics and epidemiology; vaccines, outbreaks, and humanitarian crises; and modelling. Research methods include ecological studies of variations in disease frequency in different populations, observational case-control and cohort studies to define risk factors for disease, randomised controlled trials to evaluate the effectiveness of individual- and community-level interventions, and mathematical models to project the impact of public health interventions.

The Department Heads are Professor Oona Campbell and Professor Sian Floyd.

NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Immunisation

This post is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) in Immunisation, a partnership of over 25 scientists from LSHTM, UKHSA and the University of Cambridge. Our research aims to reverse the decline in immunisation coverage in children, increase vaccine uptake in adults and reduce inequalities in the vaccine service.

Our unit is one of 14 HPRUs across England, part of an investment by the NIHR to protect the health of the nation. The HPRUs fund high quality research that enhances the ability of UKHSA to use innovative techniques to protect the public's health and minimise the health impact of emergencies, such as COVID-19. Each NIHR HPRU undertakes high-quality research that is used by UKHSA to keep the public safe from current and emerging public health threats. The NIHR HPRUs focus on collaboration and knowledge

sharing and play a pivotal role in maintaining and growing UKHSA's scientific expertise and future workforce. The multidisciplinary centres of excellence also deliver responsive research to tackle emerging or potential public health emergencies.

The NIHR's mission is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. The NIHR was established in 2006 and is primarily funded by the Department of Health and Social Care.

Working in partnership with the NHS, universities, local government, other research funders, patients, and the public, the NIHR delivers and enables world-class research that transforms people's lives, promotes economic growth, and advances science.

The NIHR HPRU in Immunisation is led by Professor Mary Ramsay at UKHSA and Professor Anthony Scott at LSHTM. The Making the Most of Real-world Evidence Theme of the HPRU in Immunisation is led by Dr. Kathryn Mansfield and Dr. Edward Parker at LSHTM, and Professor Nick Andrews at UKHSA.

Electronic Health Records Research Group

The Electronic Health Records (EHR) Research Group

(<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/electronic-health-records>) is a diverse team capitalising on research opportunities offered by routinely collected data, bringing methodological rigour to provide real-world evidence for important questions regarding human health. Our work covers a broad-spectrum including disease aetiology, safety and effectiveness of medications, vaccines and surgery, environmental influences, and health services research. We have particular interest in developing and applying optimal research methods, including both observational and interventional approaches. Researchers in the group conduct a wide portfolio of research investigating disease aetiology and drug effects, across a range of clinical areas including brain health, cancer, and skin, cardiovascular, kidney and respiratory diseases. The overall aim of our work is to capitalise on new opportunities for research using electronic health data. We have close collaborative links with the Medical Statistics Department at LSHTM, the Clinical Practice Research Datalink, and Health Data Research UK.

The portfolio of duties outlined below will vary in accordance with the academic expectations of the role, which may be varied from time to time, and agreed at your annual Performance and Development Review (PDR).

Job Description

Main Activities and Responsibilities

Knowledge Generation

1. To undertake high quality research & scholarship, including contributing to drafting major grant proposals and/or leading on drafting small grant proposals, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To contribute to peer-reviewed publications and other outputs, including as lead author;
3. To make a contribution to doctoral student supervision, as appropriate to qualifications and experience;
4. To manage small grants or elements of larger grants, ensuring compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy and other relevant LSHTM policies.
5. To conduct observational studies of vaccine epidemiology using electronic health record data from a range of sources including the Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD).
6. To work in partnership with other HPRU Themes and the UKHSA to develop joint research project plans and grant application(s).

Education

1. To contribute to the delivery of high quality, inclusive, research-informed teaching and assessment in relation to your specific subject and within the broader area covered by your department and disciplinary field;
2. To contribute to the improvement of the quality of LSHTM's education, by participating in the development of new and updated learning and teaching materials or approaches.
3. To support MSc students undertaking projects associated with Theme 1 of the HPRU in Immunisation.

Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty, MRC Unit or LSHTM;
2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in LSHTM's PDR process.
4. To assist HPRU management in reporting activities to the funder (NIHR).
5. To coordinate with HPRU colleagues to deliver actions that meet the HPRU and NIHR's strategic objectives.
6. To be an active member of the Electronic Health Records Research Group.

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External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by contributing to learned society/conference events, journal and grant reviews etc;
2. To represent the HPRU at international and national external events, conferences, and workshops.
3. To communicate research results in both reports and oral presentations to inform evidence-based policy decisions (e.g., advising the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation).
4. To contribute to the HPRU in Immunisation's patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE) activities.
5. To contribute to HPRU research collaborations with external collaborators such as the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and other Health Protection Research Units.

Professional Development and Training

1. To keep up to date with the latest research/thinking in your academic field and with changes to pedagogic practice within LSHTM and more generally;
2. Where the length and nature of the position permits, to apply for and, if accepted, undertake a doctoral degree (if not already acquired);
3. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by LSHTM as appropriate to the role.

General

All academic staff are free within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, to enable LSHTM to engage in research and promote learning to the highest possible standards.

All staff at LSHTM are also expected to:

1. Act at all times in LSHTM's best interests;
2. Treat staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;
3. Comply fully with LSHTM policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role, including when acting as Principal Investigator, accepting academic, managerial, financing and ethical responsibility for a project
4. Uphold and support LSHTM's values (as set out in the LSHTM Strategy);
5. Act as ambassadors for LSHTM when hosting visitors or attending external events.

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LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Academic Expectations

All academic roles have a statement of academic expectations attached to each level. Please ensure that these have been read and understood. The academic expectations can be found [here](#).

The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the role holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the role.

Role descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are an accurate representation of the role.

Person Specification

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed by the post holder to be able to perform the job effectively.

Applicants will be shortlisted solely on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

Essential criteria:

1. A postgraduate degree, ideally a doctoral degree, in a relevant topic.
2. Experience in leading, designing, analysing, and interpreting epidemiological studies using large electronic health record datasets.
3. Contributions to written output, preferably peer-reviewed, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of outputs.
4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and proven ability to meet research deadlines.
5. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
6. Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management.
7. Strong data management and quantitative skills with experience in a common statistical package (e.g., Stata or R).

Desirable Criteria

1. Some experience of contributing to research grant applications.
2. Some experience of teaching and assessment.
3. Some experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff.
4. Experience using Clinical Research Practice Datalink (CPRD) data for epidemiological research.
5. Experience of research skills particularly relevant to vaccine epidemiology (e.g., self-controlled case series methodology).
6. Experience of developing collaborative and reproducible code for data analysis and statistical analysis.

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is full-time and fixed term until 31 December 2024, with the possibility of extension dependent on funding. The post is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research and is available immediately. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 6 scale in the range £43,947 - £49,908 per annum pro rata (inclusive of London Weighting).

The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year, pro rata for part time staff. In addition to this there are discretionary "Wellbeing Days". Membership of the Pension Scheme is available.

LSHTM has a Hybrid Working Framework, which alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly (if the role allows), promoting a greater wellbeing and work/life balance.

Application Process

Applications should be made on-line via our website at <http://jobs.lshtm.ac.uk>. Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if appointed. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10pm of the closing date. We regret that late applications cannot be accepted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.

The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV", "Yes" or "No" will not be considered acceptable and will not be scored.

Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

Asylum and Immigration Statement

LSHTM will comply with current UKVI legislation, which requires all employees to provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in this country prior to commencing employment. Candidates will be required to email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to bring the original documents in to be copied and verified before their start date.

Applications from candidates who require sponsorship to work in the UK will be considered alongside other applications. Applicants who do not currently have the right to work in the UK will have to satisfy UK Visas & Immigration regulations before they can be appointed.

Further information about Sponsorship and eligibility to work in the UK, can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-skilled-worker>

Date amended: May 2023