

# RESEARCH FELLOW



<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Research Fellow (Maternity Cover)</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Disease Control
<b>Faculty:</b>	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
<b>Location:</b>	Keppel Street, London (with travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo)
<b>FTE:</b>	1.0
<b>Grade:</b>	G6
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Jackie Knee
<b>Job Summary:</b>	<p>We are seeking to appoint a Research Fellow to join the Environmental Health Group as a member of a multidisciplinary project team evaluating the impact of oral cholera vaccination (OCV) in Uvira, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The postholder work closely with local project team members and collaborators at the Johns Hopkins University.</p> <p>The post-holder will support international laboratory teams in Uvira and Goma (DRC), to investigate the impact of a recent OCV campaign, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) on cholera incidence in a cholera endemic setting.</p> <p>The postholder will play a critical role in the design, development and implementation of research and laboratory protocols to investigate household transmission of cholera and in strengthening cholera laboratory surveillance at the local cholera treatment centres in Uvira. The postholder will contribute to the coordination and management of lab and field data collection, supervision of local laboratory teams, data management and analysis, and publication of scientific articles. The post will involve remote supervision of laboratory teams in DRC, and travel to the study site for training and implementation of laboratory procedures and data collection for several household studies of cholera transmission. The post will require considerable travel to the study site in Uvira, DRC, and some travel to our partner reference laboratory in Goma, DRC.</p> <p>The successful applicant will have a track record of relevant research experience, excellent communication skills, and an ability to work both independently and in close collaboration with in-country partners. The applicant should have an excellent academic track record that includes formal training in public health, microbiology, and/or epidemiology as well as a relevant PhD (public health, environmental health, environmental science or engineering, epidemiology, microbiology, or similar). The application should have a track record of working with hazard group 2 bacterial pathogens (culture, contamination control and safe laboratory practices), molecular microbiology (DNA extraction and qPCR) and handling human and environmental samples (stool, water, swabs, and/or blood). Experience as a study coordinator and/or managing fieldwork/survey</p>

teams is desirable.

Excellent written and spoken English is essential to the position, as well as working proficiency in French.

## General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

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.

Staff and students are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements to improve 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 find out more please visit our [Introducing LSHTM page](#).

## Our Values

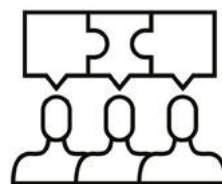
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**Act with  
integrity**



**Embrace  
difference**



**Work  
together**



**Create  
impact**

# Faculty Information

## Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases

The vision of the Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases is to deliver outstanding contributions to reduce the evolving disease burden related to infections and global health inequity. The range of disciplines represented is broad, including all laboratory-based research at LSHTM's London campus, and encompassing a “bench to boardroom” portfolio with research approaches from fundamental biology through clinical research to impact on policy and practice. It is headed by Alison Grant, who is **Professor of International Health**. The spectrum of diseases studied is wide; our main research interests include vector-borne diseases especially malaria; respiratory diseases including tuberculosis and bacterial pneumonia; enteric infections; HIV and other sexually transmitted infections; neglected tropical diseases including trachoma, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and trypanosomiasis; vaccine development and evaluation; and the prevention of blindness. The Faculty is organised into three research departments comprising: Clinical Research, Disease Control, and Infection Biology. Interdisciplinary research is a major strength, and we encourage collaboration between scientists in different research areas. The Faculty has close links with colleagues and collaborators in more than 100 countries. Our teaching programme includes MSc courses which are module in structure, both intensive taught in London and by distance learning; a variety of short courses and an [active doctoral programme](#) (PhD and DrPH). For further information on the Faculty see [here](#).

### **Department of Disease Control (Head: Professor Jayne Webster)**

The Department of Disease Control is a multidisciplinary, cross-cutting department, operating in a global context and committed to excellence in research, innovation, learning and engagement. We have an outstanding reputation for internationally competitive research and teaching excellence, with demonstrable impact in the control of diseases, worldwide. Our diverse scientific staff comprises entomologists, epidemiologists, mathematical modellers, geographers, public health engineers, hygiene specialists, social scientists, engineers, statisticians and clinical scientists. We also have a strong team of project administrators, coordinators, managers, and communication specialists, who provide expert support to our research programmes in the UK and overseas. We are a highly collaborative Department, with extensive partnerships and collaborations with researchers from many countries and organisations around the world, as well as internally, with multiple School Departments. Our work cuts across several School Centres such as the Vaccine Centre, the Malaria Centre, Centre for Evaluation and the MARCH Centre. Our staff play influential roles as consultants and key advisors to organisations including the WHO, CDC, Malaria Consortium, Public Health England, Department of Health, DFID, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Royal Society, Research Councils, Academy of Medical Sciences, the World Bank, Governments and private sector manufacturers and innovators, amongst many others. Our range of expertise provides us with an impressive set of tools for addressing the control of diseases that are insect-borne, water-borne or associated with poor hygiene – mostly in low- and middle-income countries. Much of our research is directed at current health policy issues and addressing gaps between policy and practice.

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. Undertake visits to the study site (up to 5 weeks at a time) to train research staff, oversee data collection and ensure compliance with study protocols and standard operating procedures.
6. Manage field data collection, remotely and in-person, and liaise effectively with other field-based members of the team, under the direction of the Principal Investigator (PI). This includes regular remote monitoring of incoming data collected by field teams, as well as holding regular debriefing sessions with field teams.
7. Contribute to regular communication with study partners and funding organizations and develop and manage an excellent, respectful and equitable working relationship with partner organizations;
8. Liaise effectively with other London, US, and EU based members of study team as required under the direction of the PI.
9. Lead sample analyses of various human specimens for markers of *V. cholerae* infection (stool, blood) at LSHTM laboratories as needed.
10. Lead the analysis and interpretation of data under the supervision of the PI, including effective liaison with other members of research team.
11. Coordinate supply procurement and shipment of supplies and samples to and from study site as needed.
12. Contribute to the dissemination of research findings through presentations, participation in workshops and conferences, as required.
13. Undertake other duties assigned by the PI as per the needs of the project.
14. To maintain the international relationships built within this project.

#### **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. Contribute to the Faculty teaching programme, up to 0.1FTE.

## 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 participate in and support the activities of the Environmental Health Group, including meetings, planning and strategy activities, and other activities as agreed with line manager.

## External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by contributing to learned society/conference events, journal and grant reviews etc;
2. To participate in training activities and knowledge exchange with in-country partners.

## 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. For further information please refer to the [Academic Expectations page](#).

*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. Relevant experience in public health research methods including environmental and/or clinical microbiology methods. Experience in molecular microbiology (qPCR), related methods (DNA extraction, quantification etc.), and handling a variety of sample types (stool, blood, and/or environmental samples, e.g. water, food, surface swabs).
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. Excellent written and spoken English
8. Working proficiency in French
9. Proven experience in coordinating research, including management of data collection teams and oversight of data quality, collaboration with research organisations and partners (e.g. NGOs)
10. Proven ability to efficiently learn and teach new laboratory techniques
11. Prior experience in data management and analysis and experience of electronic data collection platforms (e.g. ODK, Redcap) and analysis software (e.g. Stata, R)
12. Ability and willingness to travel up to 20 weeks per year (up to 5 weeks at a time)

### 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. Laboratory or diagnostic work in challenging and or low-resource settings
5. Previous experience working in cholera, enteric pathogen, and/or WASH research
6. Experience building and maintaining collaborative relationships
7. Experience with cholera diagnostics and/or development of new molecular diagnostic assays.

8. Experience with serological assays and immunoassays (e.g. Luminex).



## Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term (maternity cover) until 30 June 2025 and full-time, 1.0 FTE. The post is funded by GAVI and the Wellcome Trust and is available from 1 June 2024. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 6 scale in the range £43,947 - £49,908 per annum (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 [jobs website](#). 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](mailto: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 on the [government immigration rules page](#).

Date amended: Jan 2024

