

RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Job Title:	Research Assistant
Department:	Clinical Research
Faculty:	Infectious and Tropical Diseases
Location:	LSHTM, Keppel Street London
FTE:	0.4 FTE
Grade:	Grade 5
Accountable to:	Ian McCormick, Co-Principal Investigator
Job Summary:	<p>RAAB7 is the latest iteration of the popular Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) survey methodology used to support eye health planning worldwide. The project is a multi-year collaboration between Peek Vision, the International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH) at LSHTM and multiple global stakeholders, which involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iterative testing and improvement of RAAB7 Software (a data collection app and web-based survey management tool), together with Peek Vision • Supporting RAAB Survey partners • Supporting RAAB Trainers, training new Trainers and building new RAAB resources, including standardized automated analyses • Researching, pilot testing and developing new core data inputs and optional modules • Management of the RAAB data repository and www.raab.world website content <p>The RAAB Team at LSHTM are seeking a committed Research Assistant to support the team across the workstreams above. In particular, the RA will liaise with RAAB Trainers and Trainee Trainers, lead the validation of pilot subjective poverty measures, and support on a new Delphi-type exercise on research and development priorities with RAAB stakeholders.</p>

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

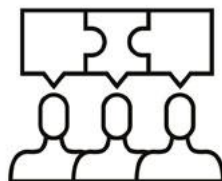
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**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 [active doctoral programme](#) (PhD and DrPH). For further information on the Faculty see [here](#).

Department of Clinical Research (Head: Professor Shunmay Yeung)

The Department of Clinical Research addresses infectious diseases of major public health importance in developing countries. Activities include trials of new therapies, vaccines and educational interventions; the development of new diagnostic tests; studies to elucidate the immunological and molecular correlates of pathogenesis and protective immunity, and to identify genetic polymorphisms conferring protection or susceptibility to infectious diseases; health services research which aims to identify the most efficient and cost effective way to deliver health care; and health policy analysis. In addition to our many overseas collaborations, we have close links with the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, in purpose-built accommodation on the main UCL Hospital campus, five minutes walk from the School. The Wellcome Trust Bloomsbury Centre for Global Health Research is based in the Department, and supports Clinical Fellows at all levels, most of whom are based overseas. The Department's main research interests include HIV and related infections; in particular, the interaction between HIV infection and tuberculosis, and other sexually transmitted diseases; malaria; trachoma; leprosy; diagnostic tests for resource limited settings; eye health; disability; and travel medicine.

Teaching

LSHTM offers 20 one year full-time taught programmes leading to the Master of Science (MSc) degree of the University of London and the Diploma of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (DLSHTM). The Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases runs or contributes substantially to nine of these MSc programmes. In addition, the Faculty is responsible for the three-month Professional Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and the Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing. The Faculty also offers a range of specialist short courses lasting usually one or two weeks. LSHTM offers a further six MSc programmes by Distance Learning, with the Faculty responsible for the MSc Infectious Diseases.

Research Training

The School offers two doctoral training programmes. The MPhil/PhD degrees are designed for those who wish to go on to a full-time research career. The DrPH is directed towards those who expect their careers to be more in the practice of public health.

The International Centre for Eye Health

The International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH) is a research and education group based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

Our Vision: Improving Eye Health Worldwide

Our Mission: To improve vision and eye health worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in research, education, capacity development and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

Our Strategic Approach: To be a world-leading academic centre and collaborative network for global eye health that delivers:

- Research – that translates impactfully into policy and practice
- Education and Knowledge Sharing – that equips and informs eye health leaders and personnel
- Capacity Development – that strengthens and motivates the workforce and transforms the eye health system

Our Values:

- Excellent and innovative in our work
- Respectful, encouraging and inclusive in our relationships
- Collaborative in our approach
- Clarity and openness in our communications

ICEH has trained clinicians and health care professionals from many countries, particularly in Asia and Africa. Through its MSc in Public Health for Eye Care and PhD programmes, ICEH has been instrumental in training many of the leaders in eye health in low- and middle-income countries across the world today. In 2006 ICEH / the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine was awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education for "Reducing blindness worldwide". Over the last five years the ICEH has coordinated the Commonwealth Eye Health Consortium and is the lead organisation for the Lancet Commission on Global Eye Health. The team, in partnership with colleagues in many different countries, typically produce more than 100 peer-reviewed research publication per year

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 as directed by your line manager, including contributing to drafting grant proposals and peer-reviewed and other outputs, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To support the administration of projects linked to your employment, helping ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant LSHTM policies;
3. To support the overall delivery of the RAAB project through supporting RAAB Trainer and Trainee Trainer liaison, including testing software updates, updating RAAB resources (including automated analyses developed in R) accordingly and managing Trainee Trainer activities
4. To support data collection related to several sub-studies as part of the overall RAAB7 Project, including developing a protocol to validate subjective poverty measures in RAAB, as part of the RAAB Health Economics module development and analysing and writing up data collected on the pilot run of the new RAAB Training of Trainers programme
5. To develop a stakeholder questionnaire and support a Delphi-type exercise with RAAB stakeholders on key research and development priorities for the next 5 years

Education

1. To participate in some aspects of LSHTM's Education Programme or educational outreach activities;

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;

External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by supporting the external academic and practice communities;

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. For lab-based disciplines: 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;
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;

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 relevant first degree in the field of global public health, ophthalmology, epidemiology or other relevant discipline
2. Relevant experience in global public health, ophthalmology, epidemiology or other relevant discipline
3. Relevant analytical skills in quantitative and/or qualitative research
4. Evidence of good organisational skills, including effective time management.
5. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively, as part of a research team.
6. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Desirable Criteria

7. Master's degree in ophthalmic epidemiology
8. Some experience of teaching
9. Experience working in public health for eye care and/or survey methodology development
10. Experience in ophthalmic or other public health training curricula
11. Experience in using R software

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term until 28 February 2025 and part-time 14 hours per week, 0.4 FTE. The post is funded by the Indigo Trust and is available from 01 June 2024. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 5 scale in the range £38,282 - £43,947 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 [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.

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.

This role does not meet the minimum requirements set by UKVI to enable sponsorship under the skilled worker route. Therefore we cannot progress applications from candidates who require sponsorship to work in the UK.

Date amended: Jan 2024