

THE UNIVERSITY *of York*

The Department of Health Sciences



Funded PhD Studentship Quality and Safety Research

Applications are invited for a full-time 3-year PhD studentship in quality and safety research, funded by the Bradford Institute for Health Research and hosted within the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York ([insert link](#)), commencing October 2012.

We are seeking an exceptional and self-motivated individual who wishes to develop their research skills and build a career in patient safety research and who will make an active contribution to the YQSR portfolio.

The funding is related to Mobile Medical Applications in Practice. And the PhD fellowship will focus on the barriers and facilitators to implementation of mobile medical applications in clinical practice. Bradford Teaching Hospitals Trust will be providing iPads to all clinical staff from the start of 2013 providing a unique opportunity to explore how they are used in a clinical setting and how apps are developed and evolve to improve quality and safety of health care. The successful candidate will be expected to build a research project within this area with the support of their supervisors.

The successful candidate will be formally registered through the Department of Health Sciences and during the first year will undertake any appropriate research training by accessing appropriate Health Sciences modules.

The award will cover academic fees at the UK/EU rate and a maintenance grant of £12,000 per annum for 3 years (International students would need to find funds to cover the remaining fees). A project support grant of £2700 over the course of the PhD can be used at

the discretion of the supervisors to support research expenses.

For students whose first language is not English there is a minimum requirement of an IELTS score of at least 7 in each component of the test.

Department of Health Sciences

The successful candidate will join the Department of Health Sciences which has been rated equal first for health services research in the UK. You will also be part of our graduate school which provides a vibrant, multidisciplinary learning environment. The core philosophy of the Department is that its teaching and research programmes should improve health and healthcare through the development of rigorous research evidence and its application in policy and practice. The Department is multidisciplinary, involving clinicians from a range of health professions including medicine, nursing and midwifery alongside disciplines such as statistics, health economics, health services research, psychology, sociology and epidemiology.

In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, we (together with colleagues from the Centre for Health Economics and the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination) were rated equal first in the UK for Health Services Research, fourth for Nursing and Midwifery and nineteenth for Epidemiology and Public Health. Our postgraduate education includes programmes in Public Health, Health Services Research, Health Sciences, and Haematopathology as well as PhD study.

We are a research intensive department with an annual research income in excess of £6 Million. Our researchers work in at least one of our research themes which are described in detail on our website.

Yorkshire Quality and Safety Group

The successful candidate will also become part of the YQSG. Established in 2007, the Yorkshire Quality and Safety Research (YQSR) group brings together leading academics from the Universities of York and Leeds with clinicians and managers from the Bradford health community and the Yorkshire and Humber region to co-produce research.

The YQSR group is a multidisciplinary team whose aim is to develop and evaluate innovative solutions to patient safety problems. The group also has expertise on how to speed up the translation of these ideas into practice. A key to the success of the group has been the embedding of health research into NHS practice.

The University

The University of York is one of the foremost Universities in the UK and a member of the Russell Group of leading UK Universities. It has an outstanding record of research, teaching, and training across a full range of disciplines. The most recently reported Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) placed York in the top ten UK universities. The University has a particular strength in health-related research.

The main campus is a 200-acre landscaped park, well-known for its lake and wildfowl, with colleges and academic buildings within walking distance of each other. Proximity to the historic city of York makes the University a popular choice and provides a pleasant working environment. Transport connections to York are fast and effective.

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Degree in a health, health services research, statistical or science topic. Minimum upper second class.	√	
Knowledge		
Understanding of issues of quality and safety in healthcare		√
Understanding of the health field		√
Understanding of use of technology in healthcare		√
Personal Attributes		
Analytical thinker with good problem solving abilities. Ability to both 'think outside of the box' and be pragmatic in approach.	√	
Self-motivation, excellent organisational skills and a commitment to the delivery of high quality outputs.	√	
Excellent written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills	√	
Ability to, work collaboratively.	√	

Process for application

Closing date for applications is 27th July 2012

Applications should be made using the Department of Health Sciences on-line application process which can be accessed using the following link.

<http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/uao/ugrad/courses/cupid/index.cfm?ippCode=DRPHSCSHSC3&level=postgraduate>.

Applicants should state that they are applying for the advertised patient safety studentship and provide a *curriculum vitae* and two academic references. You should also upload an outline of your intended approach to the area of research outlined, stating potential methods or approaches that could be adopted. (up to 500 words in PDF format). If you have already published academic papers, **one** of these may also be uploaded.

Interviews

Interviews are likely to take place on the 23rd August 2012. At interview candidates will be expected to give a short presentation on a project or piece of research that they have undertaken previously and outline their plans for developing a suitable project.

Informal Enquiries

Prospective applicants who wish to discuss the studentships should contact Prof. Ian Watt . (isw1@york.ac.uk).