Clinical Research Fellow
Centre for Immunology & Infection—Hull York Medical School & the Department of Biology

Closing date: 05 June 2018
Interview date: 15 June 2018
Vacancy reference: 6641
INTRODUCTION

The leishmaniases represent a diverse collection of diseases. They affect ~150M people in 98 countries worldwide, are recognized by WHO as major neglected diseases of poverty, and disproportionately affect populations in low and middle income countries (LMICs). Visceral leishmaniasis (VL) results in >20,000 deaths annually; cutaneous leishmaniases (CL) impacts quality of life for millions of people. Although Ambisome has revolutionised VL treatment in South Asia, it is less effective elsewhere. Treatment for CL has changed little in >50 years. Drug resistance, the fragility of health systems and the limited impact of vector control represent significant challenges to controlling leishmaniasis with current tools. Availability of an effective vaccine would have a major impact on health and economic development in LMICs where leishmaniasis is endemic.

This project looks to develop a human challenge model (HCM) as an integral part of the development pipeline for prophylactic leishmaniasis vaccines. We aim to have a suitable HCM established within the period of this grant, allowing combined Phase I / efficacy studies to then be conducted with any vaccine candidates available at GMP.

Funded by the Medical Research Council and Department for International Development (DFiD) the project has collaborators from Czech Republic and Israel. The Clinical Research Fellow will undertake research under the direction of the nominated supervisors and participate in the delivery of the research outputs of the project.
Main purpose of the role

- A registered medical practitioner, you will be employed by the University of York, and will hold an honorary contract with York Teaching Hospital NHS Trust. The post will support the delivery of the Medical Research Council funded grant – “Development of a human challenge model of Leishmania major infection as a tool for assessing vaccines against leishmaniasis” (ref: MR/R014973/1).

- You will demonstrate a commitment to the pursuit of excellence in research, and work towards the completion of a PhD thesis.

- You will participate in clinical practice, undertaking medical duties as appropriate and agreed, and contribute to teaching, training and research activities.

- Assisting in the identification and recruitment of patients, you will ensure studies are conducted in strict accordance with the study protocol and comply with good clinical and laboratory practice.

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- Undertake research under the direction of the nominated supervisors (Profs Paul Kaye and Charles Lacey) and participate in the delivery of the Medical Research Council funded project – “Development of a human challenge model of Leishmania major infection as a tool for assessing vaccines against leishmaniasis”, as well as other related awards.

- Work towards the completion of a PhD thesis.

- Assist in the identification and recruitment of patients, ensuring that each patient fulfils the study criteria and effective informed consent is obtained.

- Ensure studies are conducted strictly in accordance with the study protocol, working in conjunction with colleagues in preparing submissions to appropriate ethical committees.

- Ensure compliance with good clinical and laboratory practice at all times, in particular ensuring appropriate storage and confidentiality of patient and other data.

- Contribute to teaching, training and research activities.

- Participate in clinical practice, undertaking medical duties as appropriate and agreed.

- Participate in multi-disciplinary team meetings as directed by research and clinical supervisors.

- Present and publish research material as agreed with your supervisors.

- Establish and maintain a professional approach to colleagues, students, study volunteers and patients at all times.

- Attend appropriate research training courses e.g. GCP, statistics etc.

- Undertake all duties in line with the University and NHS Health and Safety policies.

- Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices.

Condition of appointment

This role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act. Consequently, all applicants will be asked to declare both unspent and spent convictions on their application form.

Appointment of the successful candidate will be conditional on a Disclosure and Barring Service check.
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current GMC registration</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>MB, BS or equivalent</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>MSc or other relevant postgraduate qualification</td>
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<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate level of clinical knowledge</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven knowledge of evidence-informed practice</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Good understanding of clinical risk management</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Understanding of clinical governance and resource constraints</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven evidence of participation in audit</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of the principles of research and research methodologies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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<td>Specific clinical procedures appropriate to level of experience</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Excellent prioritisation of clinical need</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to take responsibility, show leadership, make decisions and exert appropriate authority</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to communicate with clarity, intelligibility in written and spoken English, with the ability to build rapport, listen, persuade and negotiate</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven competency in working without direct supervision</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to organise and prioritise own workload</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Good manual dexterity and hand/eye coordination</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Good information technology skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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# PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Higher specialist trainee (ST3 or above) in infectious diseases/tropical medicine, clinical immunology or dermatology</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience and ability to work in multi-professional teams</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Can demonstrate breadth of experience and awareness in and outside speciality/medicine</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven evidence of research capability</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of academic presentations</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Experience of producing research publications</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Experience of teaching and exposure to differing teaching methods</td>
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## Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to empathise, and work co-operatively with others, being open and non-defensive</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Have a non-judgemental approach to patients and colleagues</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Be flexible and able to change, adapt and respond rapidly to changing circumstances</td>
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<td>Able to operate under pressure and have an awareness of own limitations</td>
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<td>Be honest with integrity and an awareness of ethical dilemmas</td>
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<td>Self-disciplined and committed</td>
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The Centre for Immunology and Infection

The Centre for Immunology and Infection Unit (CII) is an Interdepartmental Research Centre created by the Hull York Medical School and the Department of Biology at the University of York. Research within the CII ranges from fundamental studies on immunology, microbiology and parasitology through to first-in-man clinical research. Our aim is to develop a greater understanding of the processes underlying chronic infectious and non-infectious disease, and thus to develop new approaches to prevention and treatment. (www.york.ac.uk/cii)

Supported by major infrastructure investment the Centre was established in 2004 and expanded into additional purpose built accommodation in 2010. Within the current 2000m² of research and office space, we have excellent facilities for research on ACDP HG3 organisms. Proximity to the Biosciences Technology Facility and Biological Services Facility of the Dept. of Biology ensure ready access to state of the art and well-supported cutting edge technology platforms (http://www.york.ac.uk/biology/technology-facility/) and animal facilities (to HG3).

Clinical research is a joint venture, utilising the expertise and resources of the University of York and York Teaching Hospital NHS Trust. We aim to provide an environment that can deliver early phase trials (phase 1 and phase 2) and support basic scientific research, which will result in high impact results (https://www.york.ac.uk/cii/clinicaltranslationalresearch/). Research in the CII has a focus on chronic diseases of infectious, autoimmune and haematological origin.

Following the University of York’s acquisition of a Human Tissue Authority research license, the York Tissue bank was established. This initiative aims to develop networks with the clinical care teams and help provide researchers from both the Hospital and University with access to human tissue for basic and translational research.

Hull York Medical School

The joint medical school of the Universities of Hull and York, Hull York Medical School has a reputation as one of the UKs most exciting, contemporary schools. Established in 2003 it combines York’s strengths in biological science and health sciences and Hull’s Postgraduate Medical School and large clinical base. Hull York Medical School has recently been allocated 75 additional medical school places as part of HEFCE’s Expansion of Undergraduate Medical Education, which represents a 69% increase in home places to 220 in 2019.
Hull York Medical School offers exceptional medical education delivered by senior academics and clinicians in a stimulating and supportive environment with world-class facilities.

At undergraduate level the School’s MB BS Medicine programme offers an innovative curriculum focused on clinician led problem based learning and early and sustained clinical exposure across a range of primary and secondary healthcare settings.

The School’s postgraduate taught programmes offer students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of subjects such as clinical anatomy, human anatomy and evolution and their applications in practise and education.

Hull York Medical School’s unique partnership brings together the expertise of both the Universities of Hull and York and offers a thriving environment in which to conduct world-leading research. Strong partnerships with NHS Trusts and community health organisations offer a wide clinical base within which to study those conditions which most affect our communities – improving their health while developing research work that can be applied nationally and globally.

The School’s academic and clinical researchers have a strong reputation for their work, 85% of which is classed as ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’ (REF 2014). Their research is advancing improvements in healthcare – treatment, diagnosis and care – improving the health of people locally and impacting national and international health agendas in areas such as cancer research, palliative medicine, mental health and global public health.

The University of York has a global reputation for its research, the foundation of which is an understanding of the fundamental underpinnings of health and disease. Hull York Medical School researchers at York are at the forefront of scientific discoveries that underpin the development, diagnosis and treatment of the world’s most aggressive diseases especially related to immunology, infection and neuroscience. They are also increasing understanding of mental health issues and patient safety and developing support for patients with complex needs and from a variety of backgrounds. Their work casting new light and impacting public health globally.

As well as a unique partnership between the Universities of Hull and York, Hull York Medical School works with NHS Trusts, Mental and Community Health organisations and GPs across the Yorkshire Region. These partnerships ensure the School remains in touch with the healthcare needs of the communities it serves as well as abreast of current and future workforce challenges.
**THE DEPARTMENT**

**Department of Biology**

Our department welcomes staff and students from around the world. We celebrate excellence, breadth and diversity across the spectrum of modern biology.

Our research is focused around fundamental science research foci, which are Cell and Developmental Biology, Molecular and Cellular Medicine, Bioinformatics and Mathematical Biology, Infection and Immunity, Ecology and Evolution, Microbiology, Biochemistry and Biophysics and Plant Biology. The Department has successfully continued to establish state-of-the-art laboratory space and maximise our existing space and a new teaching building opened in Autumn 2016. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise, the Department of Biology was again placed in the top 10 in the UK. We are ranked 1st for impact outside academia - our research has had major influence on environmental policy, industry and health. This demonstrates our strengths across the biological sciences: from ecology to biochemistry, biotechnology and biomedical sciences. The Department of Biology covers the spectrum of contemporary biological sciences with no internal barriers, and collaboration internally and externally is strongly encouraged. Our Department comprises >70 academic and teaching staff, >100 research associates, >140 professional support staff (technical and administrative) staff, 180 graduate students, and approximately 860 undergraduates. Several senior positions are funded by charities or industry.

Although we are a research-intensive department, our teaching is equally important, and the University holds a Silver Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) award. Our teaching in the department consistently ranks highly which is reflected in our achievements in the National Student Survey (NSS). We are preparing for departmental TEF awards in 2020. Our aim is to maintain a collegiate atmosphere where academic practice encompasses equitably distributed research, teaching and administrative duties throughout the staff group. Our staff are enthusiastic about interacting with students and have a commitment to delivering high-quality teaching and developing and applying innovative and appropriate teaching techniques using material which creates interest, understanding and enthusiasm amongst students. Staff carry out on-going curriculum review, the review of module content and materials and contribute to the development of teaching and learning strategies.

The Department of Biology operates a set of family-friendly policies and welcomes applications that are made on a part-time and job share basis. We will do our best to accommodate such requests where possible. Staff working patterns are flexible and a formal flexitime system is also in operation and the University has a nursery on site. We are proud to foster a supportive culture that helps staff and students reach their full potential and we embrace equality, diversity and inclusion as well as the values of the Athena SWAN Charter in all our departmental activities. Our philosophy is that poor working practices discriminate disproportionately against women whereas good practices support all. We have a Gold Athena SWAN award in recognition of our culture, ethos and activity.
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2018 it is the home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world's leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and are ranked 16th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2017). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen’s Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we’ve worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, flexible working arrangements, staff engagement forums, campus facilities and services to support staff from different backgrounds.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages.
**The City of York**

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn’t just a great place to visit - it’s also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit [www.visityork.org](http://www.visityork.org) for more information on the city of York.

**Shopping, culture and entertainment**

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

**Housing and schools**

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

**Great location**

York is one of Britain’s best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

**Yorkshire**

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 6641
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 05 June 2018

What will I need?

You will need to upload:

- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of 2 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to charles.lacey@hyms.ac.uk or biol-dmthub@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk

+44 (0)1904 324835