Research Fellow
Centre for Health Economics

Closing date: 16 May 2019
Interview date: 3 June 2019
Vacancy reference: 7558
INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Health Economics is seeking to expand further its research activities in the area of health technology assessment (HTA) and economic evaluation. We are recruiting a Grade 6 Research Fellow to contribute to technology assessments for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICEs) and to a broader programme of work in HTA. The NICE technology assessment reviews (TARs) programme is funded through the National Institute for Health Research and consists of input to single technology appraisals, multiple technology appraisals and diagnostics assessment reviews. The wider programme of HTA may involve methods work in areas including synthesis, extrapolation methods, uncertainty and the sufficiency of evidence and diagnostics. Applied research will largely involve evidence synthesis and decision analytic modelling but may also cover the analysis of individual level data from trials and observational studies.

The appointed Research Fellow will be expected to start as soon as possible. The vacancy is available on a full-time fixed term basis for 24 months.
Main purpose of the role

The Research Fellow will contribute to research in health technology assessment (HTA). This will include working on existing projects, particularly under the NICE technology assessment programme, but also helping to develop new project proposals. The contribution expected is described below:

- To conduct research under the supervision of senior colleagues
- To contribute to the thriving research environment within CHE (e.g. participating in seminars)
- To assist in the identification and development of potential areas of research and the development of proposals for research projects

Key responsibilities

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

- To conduct individual and collaborative research projects, duties to include: analysis and interpretation of research data; use of appropriate research techniques and methods; writing up of research results and dissemination through publications, seminar and conference presentations and public engagement and outreach activities; contributing to the identification of possible new areas of research
- To contribute to the preparation of research proposals and applications to external bodies
- To undertake appropriate organisational and administrative activities connected to the research project, including conference organisation, and the development of promotional or educational material including website maintenance and development
- To develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally, duties to include: the building of internal contacts and participation in internal networks; collaboration with colleagues on joint projects as required; participation in and identification of external networks in order to share information and identify potential opportunities for collaboration and possible sources of funding; attendance at and contribution to relevant meetings
- To provide guidance to other staff and students, as required, as well as coordinating the work of small research teams

JOB DESCRIPTION

At a glance

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<th>Salary</th>
<th>£32,236—£39,609 a year (reduced pro rata for part time)</th>
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<td>Contract type</td>
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# PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Qualifications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Master’s level qualification in health economics or other quantitative subject such as applied mathematics, operational research or applied statistics</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD or equivalent research experience in health economics with a focus on economic evaluation</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge and understanding of economic evaluation</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methodologies for the evaluation of interventions</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of statistics applied to health technology assessment</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence of strong quantitative skills including evidence synthesis</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills in use of spreadsheets and statistical software packages such as Stata or R</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to write up research work for publication in high profile journals and engage in public dissemination</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competency to conduct individual and collaborative research projects</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to identify sources of funding and contribute to the process of securing funds, with collaborators if required</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competency to make presentations at conferences or exhibit work in other appropriate events</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good communication skills to engage effectively with a wide-ranging audience, both orally and in writing, using a range of media</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Experience

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<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
<th>Experience</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Economic evaluation applying quantitative methods including evidence synthesis and decision analytic modelling.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Experience of carrying out both independent and collaborative research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Experience of writing up research work for publication.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Experience of publishing in peer reviewed journals or other outlets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to work as part of a team and also to work independently using own initiative.</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Interest in and enthusiasm for economic evaluation including evidence synthesis and decision modelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Interest in and enthusiasm for the subject matter of the project(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Positive attitude to colleagues</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines, including using initiative to plan research programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

Centre for Health Economics:
The Centre for Health Economics (CHE) was established at the University of York in 1983, and was one of the world’s first research institutes dedicated to the study of the economics of health and health care. It rapidly established a leading international reputation, and is now one of the world’s largest health economics research centres. In a ranking of the top 100 institutions in health economics in the world, the University of York is ranked 7th and is the highest ranking European institution.

We have a 35 year track record in delivering high quality policy-relevant research which makes a difference to society. We maintain high scientific standards and place a premium on the rigour and quality of our work. Our mission is to be a globally recognised research centre, committed to the development and application of the discipline of economics in order to promote health and wellbeing through the effective, efficient and equitable use of scarce resources.

Research:
The defining characteristics of CHE’s research are:

Methods rigour: CHE’s research is distinguished by a major focus on the development and application of advanced methods and analytical techniques to address important and complex questions.

Policy focus: We aim to inform and influence health policy and practice, nationally and internationally.

Engagement: We work alongside decision-makers, practitioners and academic colleagues to prioritise, design and deliver timely research which is communicated effectively to relevant users in accessible formats, including a range of teaching and training activities.

Excellence: We have a long track record of producing high quality research, spanning 35 years, within a leading UK institution and in one of the world’s top 100 universities.

The core research themes covered by CHE are:
- Economic evaluation and health technology assessment
- Econometric methods
- Health equity and health care
- Health and social care
- Health policy
- Global health
- Health policy

Further details of the projects and topics within the core themes can be found on our website: [http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/](http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/)

Economic evaluation and health technology assessment:
The research fellow will work in CHE’s Team for Economic Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment (TEEHTA),
which is the largest programme of work in the Centre. They will be working on the part of the theme devoted to health technology assessment, as part of the programme of projects for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and a wider set of projects in this area.

**Technology Assessment for NICE**

Funded by the NIHR, this is a programme of work, in collaboration with the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) at York, to undertake a series of technology assessments each year for NICE. This includes critical reviews of manufacturer submissions under the single technology appraisal process; review, synthesis and modelling under the multiple technology appraisal process and the diagnostic assessment programme; and a range of other health technology assessment research not directly related to NICE’s decision-making. Recent or ongoing work undertaken in this area include:

- Methods to evaluate site agnostic cancer therapies
- Diagnostic assessment review of point of care creatinine testing to assess kidney function before administering intravenous contrast for computed tomography (CT) imaging
- Single technology appraisal of Tildrakizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis
- Single technology appraisal of Tisagenlecleucel for treating relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma after 2 or more systemic therapies

**Other programmes, project work and activities**

- TEEHTA is part of the NICE Decision Support Unit, a collaborative group providing analytic advice and support to NICE which also involves colleagues at the Universities of Sheffield and Leicester. See [http://www.nicedsu.org.uk/](http://www.nicedsu.org.uk/) for further details.

- There have been a number of recent methods research projects relating HTA including:
  - Quantifying uncertainty and informing decision making
  - Estimating health opportunity costs and NICE’s cost-effectiveness threshold
  - Appropriate modelling methods for technology assessment
  - Appropriate modelling methods for technology assessment
  - In addition, recent and ongoing applied HTA projects include:
    - Assessing the cost-effectiveness of managing patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia
    - Cost-effectiveness analysis of MRI to improve the detection of prostate cancer
    - Developing and evaluating a diabetes self-management intervention for people with severe mental illness
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 AND THE REGION

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 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 7558
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 16 May 2019

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:
Professor Stephen Palmer (stephen.palmer@york.ac.uk)
or Trish Smith (trish.smith@york.ac.uk)

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

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835