THE POST

College:	**College of Medicine and Health**
Post:	**Senior Research Fellow**
Reference No:	**P68116**
Grade:	**G**
HERA:	**SRFEL**
Reporting To:	**Iain Lang**

This post is available from 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2024 within the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration South West Peninsula (PenARC) and based at the University of Exeter Medical School in the College of Medicine and Health. The post is available full-time but other working patterns will be considered.

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

The **College of Medicine and Health** wishes to appoint a Senior Research Fellow to work on projects related to implementation science and knowledge mobilisation in health services research. This post will be funded from an NIHR award and the postholder will be expected to provide support to research projects adopted by PenARC, to actively identify and develop research and implementation ideas relevant to PenARC's aims, and to contribute to the securing of external funding to support these. We wish to develop PenARC's capacity in implementation science and related fields (knowledge mobilisation, knowledge translation, quality improvement, etc.). Applicants with existing experience in and knowledge of these fields, whether from healthcare or other sectors, are particularly welcome to apply.

In our research and associated educational activity PenARC staff, researchers, and collaborators seek to develop existing partnerships between health researchers and NHS and other relevant organisations in the South West Peninsula in order to reach this objective. In particular, our close ongoing collaboration with the South West Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) enriches the opportunities for joint working on a range of potential projects.

PenARC

In 2018 The NIHR launched a new competition to designate and fund NIHR Applied Research Collaborations (NIHR ARCs), a new approach to the NIHR CLAHRCs of previous years. PenCLAHRC submitted their application to the NIHR to secure designation and funding for five years as an NIHR ARC in autumn 2018, and are now able to confirm the success of their application.

The new funding is part of a £135 million government investment in health research aimed at tackling the biggest challenges the health and care system faces over the next five years including dementia, obesity and mental health. A total of fifteen partnerships across England, made up of NHS organisations, social care services, leading academics, innovators, and local authorities, have been awarded funding through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for ground-breaking new projects that will address the increasing demands on the NHS and give patients greater independence and choice about how they manage their healthcare.

NIHR ARCs are successors to CLAHRCs NIHR Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRCs). For more information about our work please visit our website: http://clahrc-peninsula.nihr.ac.uk/

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study including:

   1) Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
   2) Contribute to the development of research strategies for the College.
   3) Define research objectives and questions.
   4) Develop proposals for research projects which will make a significant impact by leading to an increase in knowledge and understanding and the discovery or development of new explanations, insights, concepts or processes.
   5) Actively seek research funding and secure it as far as it is reasonably possible.
   6) Generate new research approaches and identify, adapt, develop and use research methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research.
   7) Review and synthesise the outcomes of research studies.
   8) Interpret findings obtained from research projects and develop new insights, expanding, refining and testing hypotheses and ideas.
   9) Contribute generally to the development of thought and practice in the field.

2. To contribute to capacity building and training health and social care and teaching and learning programmes in the College and to supervise postgraduate research students.

3. To act as research team leader including:

   1) Provide academic leadership to those working within research areas - for example, by co-ordinating the work of others to ensure that research projects are delivered effectively and to time, or organising the work of a team by agreeing objectives and work plans.
   2) Contribute to the development of teams and individuals through the appraisal system and providing advice on personal development.
   3) Act as line manager (e.g. of research teams).
   4) Act as a personal mentor to peers and colleagues.
   5) Ensure that teams within the College work together and act to resolve conflicts within teams.

4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.

5. To plan, co-ordinate and implement research programmes including:

   - Managing the use of research resources and ensure that effective use is made of them;
   - Managing research budgets;
   - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
   - Planning and managing own consultancy assignments.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post‑holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

Person Specification

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Attainments/Qualifications	Be an internationally recognised authority in the subject area. PhD or equivalent qualification / experience in a related field of study.	PhD or equivalent professional experience relevant to implementation science (e.g. a related area of sociology, psychology, anthropology, or health sciences)
Skills and Understanding	Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop research programmes and methodologies.	Expertise in one or more of a range of research skills related to implementation science methodologies and theories, including (but not limited to) health

	Record of research output in nationally recognised publications. Understanding of the role in health services research of patient and public involvement and of co-producing research with knowledge users Knowledge of existing literature on implementation or improvement science Ability to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities	and social care services research and evaluation methods, realist methods, action research, and relevant quantitative methods Ability to navigate the complex inter-relationships in NHS or other health and social care organisations and evidence of successful working across the organisational interfaces (e.g. primary/ secondary care; public health/ clinical care/ social care; commissioners/ providers)
Prior Experience	Experience of teaching at undergraduate level. Successful in obtaining grant funding. Experience of working both independently and collaboratively on research or implementation projects with proven success in working as part of a team developing ideas or methods with peers Experience of managing research projects and research teams Experience of applying for competitive grant funding Extensive experience of conducting research on health and social care services or related topics and of producing peer-reviewed publications and presenting findings to a variety of audiences (including academics, practitioners, clinicians, service users, and members of the public)	Experience of postgraduate teaching and supervision. Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects. Experience of working in or with the NHS or other relevant organisations Experience of applying academic expertise or research evidence to help solve practical problems Experience of building capacity to use / apply research findings and/ or support implementation efforts by health and social care clinicians and practitioners
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking. Able to participate in and develop external networks. Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities. Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative	

	demands and competing deadlines.	
	Ability to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups verbally, in writing, and using other media	
	Ability to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines	
	Commitment to engaging in continuous professional development.	
	Understanding of equal opportunities issues as they may impact on health and social care services research.	
Circumstances	The post may involve some travel to sites across Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset.	

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may discuss the post further by contacting Dr Iain Lang I.Lang@exeter.ac.uk 01392 726087, or Dr Jo Day J.K.Day@exeter.ac.uk 01392 726089

Terms & Conditions
Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed here.

Further Information
Please see our website for further information on working at the University of Exeter.