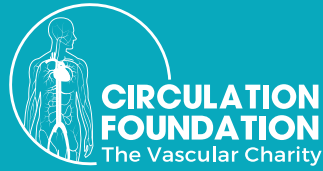




THE ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
SURGEONS
OF EDINBURGH



Research Fellow in Human Factors and Digital Surgical Education



Job purpose

The successful candidate will conduct an independent research project on Human Factors applied to Vascular Surgery. An appropriate project supervisor and co-supervisor will be appointed to oversee the project. You will be encouraged to register for a higher research degree (Doctor of Medicine in the first instance) and seek external peer-reviewed funding to support the research costs of the project where appropriate. In parallel to conducting a research project, the post-holder will have the opportunity to contribute to teaching activities within the vascular and general surgical departments.

It is recognised that Human Factors play a fundamental part of performance in surgery and this is now reinforced by the GMC with the advent of the general professional capabilities mandated in new curricula. A subset of Human Factors, called non-technical skills, has been embedded within surgery based on the Non-Technical Skills for Surgeons (NOTSS) tool which covers situation awareness, decision making, teamwork and leadership. The fellow will have the opportunity to undertake innovative educational research on human factors and specifically non-technical skills within vascular surgical training. There may also be additional opportunities to collaborate on research projects in non-technical skills, coaching, patient safety, global surgery, and surgical metrics.

This Fellowship is a collaboration between the Circulation Foundation and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Main responsibilities

- Develop and execute a high quality, original, data-driven research programme exploring human factors in vascular surgery (Approx 80% of time)
- Contribute to the dissemination and publication of research findings through preparation of first author manuscripts for publication in high quality journals, prepare reports for funders, and present data at relevant international conferences (Approx 15% of time)
- Prepare ethics, Caldicott Guardian and Information Governance applications in line with research study requirements (Approx 5% of time)

Planning & organising

The post-holder will be expected to manage their own day-to-day work load working to an agreed research timetable and to degree programme deadlines as appropriate, necessitating excellent time management, independent working and close co-ordination with supervisors.

Problem Solving & Level of Direction Given

Clear line management and supervision will be provided initially with the post holder learning to resolve most problems using accumulated experience, but continuing to seek advice as appropriate to their knowledge and experience. The post-holder will be encouraged to be creative and use initiative to identify areas for research, develop new research methods, and diversify the research of the department. They will also use initiative to analyse and interpret research data to draw appropriate conclusions from it in discussion with the project supervisors.

Decision Making

Decision making skills will be developed during the post under guidance from the project supervisors to include:

- Taken independently: Organise own workload according to priority and adapt as necessary, setting of short-term time-lines, experimental design appropriate to specific research aims
- Taken in collaboration with others: problem solving and data interpretation, experimental design, development of potential new research strategies
- Referred to project supervisors: Overall timelines, changes of research direction, response to unexpected events, interpretation of complex data (although input to these areas is expected).

Knowledge, Skills & Experience

Applicants should have completed Core Surgical Training and have an interest in vascular and academic surgery

Essential:

- Qualified medical practitioner
- Registered with GMC
- Member of the Vascular Society of GB & Ireland
- Satisfactory completion of 2 year Foundation Programme
- Committed to training in Vascular Surgery
- Past presentations at national or international conferences
- Completed ATLS/ALS or equivalent course
- Completion of MRCS or equivalent curriculum

Desirable:

- Undergraduate science degree (BSc or equivalent) in relevant subject
- Distinctions, prizes, awards, scholarships, other degrees
- First author publications in relevant academic disciplines

Salary & Post Dimensions

The post will be paid on the appropriate NHS/University pay scale (subject to experience) for 40 hours each week. Salary is paid monthly by direct transfer to your Bank or Building Society account, normally on the 28th of the month. The post is available for up to 2 years in the first instance.

The post-holder will be based at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh but may be required to visit other sites within Edinburgh such as the Western General hospital and the Edinburgh Surgery Online office on the Royal Mile.

The fellowship is supported jointly by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Circulation Foundation, a major charity committed to eradicating vascular disease through education and research. The Vascular Society has been instrumental in developing Vascular Surgery as a new specialty of surgery and leads development of a curriculum-linked education programme called ASPIRE for vascular trainees.

At the end of each year of the fellowship period, the successful candidate will be asked to submit a report of your work including progress, details of presentations, and publications. Please note the second year of the fellowship is subject to satisfactory performance at the end of the first year.

Key Contacts/Relationships

Frequent contact (daily or weekly) will be with Professor Steven Yule and Mr Andrew Tambyraja and other academic members of the department of clinical surgery. Professor Yule is chair of Behavioural Sciences at The University of Edinburgh and based in Clinical Surgery. He has extensive research experience in non-technical skills, human factors, simulation, communication and leadership. Mr Tambyraja is the Clinical Director for Vascular Surgery in Edinburgh and has an interest in medical education and training.

Informal Enquiries

For informal discussion of the post please contact:
m.micola@rcsed.ac.uk

Application Procedure

All applicants should apply via the online application form which can be found at:
<https://rcsed.grantplatform.com/>

Closing date

Applications will close January 3rd 2023.

Interview date

Interviews will be conducted virtually after the closing date. You will be notified by email if you have been shortlisted for interview.

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