



# Job Description

**Clinical Research Fellow/Senior Clinical Research Fellow in Sexual Health, HIV, and Infectious Diseases**

**Grade: CL7/CL8**

**Full-time: 1.0 FTE (i.e. 36.5 hours per week)**

**Duration: 12 months in the first instance**

**Institute for Global Health**

**Location: The Mortimer Market Centre, Bloomsbury, London, WC1E 6JB**

---

## Reports to:

- Accountable to: Professor Fiona Burns (Director, Centre for Clinical Research in Infection & Sexual Health)
- Responsible to: Dr Alejandro Arenas-Pinto

---

## Context

The Centre for Clinical Research in Infection and Sexual Health ([CCRISH](#)) is part of the Institute for Global Health and has a research programme dedicated to advancing the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious diseases and improving sexual health outcomes. Alongside social and implementation science, our research spans clinical, behavioural, and population-level interventions. The postholder will be expected to support clinical research across observational, interventional and epidemiological studies for HIV infection, other sexually transmitted infections, viral hepatitis and COVID-19. They will undertake teaching and student supervision in the Institute for Global Health, and have clinical responsibilities in the sexual health and/or HIV/BBV service at CNWL.

## UCL Institute for Global Health

The UCL Institute for Global Health (IGH) is one of 82 Departments at UCL. Our mission is to improve health worldwide through research and education. We comprise 160 research, teaching and professional services staff, and have an annual research income in excess of £21M.

We focus on conducting impactful research that informs health policies and practices, tackling the biggest health challenges facing the world. We have strong long-standing partnerships with researchers, patients, communities, health care providers and policymakers in the UK, other parts of Europe, across Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and South America.

We foster a culture of critical thought and continuous learning and believe that equality and diversity make us better at our work and promote these in all dimensions. Building the capacity of early career staff is central to our mission and we have multiple supportive schemes ranging from mentoring to funding for small grants.

In Education, our aim is to train the next generation of health and research leaders. Our postgraduate programmes include the MSc Global Health and Development, the MSc Health Economics and Decision Science, and the MSc Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology. We have 50 students on PhD programmes and contribute to teaching medical students.

IGH comprises three Departments:

The **Department for Environmental and Community Health** conducts research on health and climate change, migration and conflict. It houses among the largest groupings in the UK of researchers working on non-communicable diseases, mental health and global health economics. It supports pragmatic global health trials including research on new methods. The **Department of Global Health Equity and Social Justice** conducts research on the health of women, children and adolescents, on gender-based violence and on the wellbeing of minoritised people. The Department has critical mass in social epidemiology, anthropology, gender and feminisms, paediatrics, community psychology, and political science and has been at the forefront for developing participatory research methods. The Department of Infection and Population Health brings under one roof all the infection, clinical and population health, including sexual health, molecular epidemiology, and tuberculosis. It is home to Natsal, one of the largest and most detailed studies of sexual behaviour in the world.

The **Department of Infection and Population Health** at UCL integrates clinical, molecular, and population-level research on infectious diseases, drawing on major strengths in sexual health, tuberculosis, molecular epidemiology, statistics, and mathematical modelling. It hosts one of the world's largest and most detailed sexual behaviour studies (Natsal) and provides access to extensive cohorts of people living with HIV, enabling high-impact translational and population health research. Within this department sits the **Centre for Clinical Research in Infection and Sexual Health**, with around 30 staff, made up of clinicians, social scientists, statisticians, research nurses, research assistants, administrative, data and research management staff, it focuses on advancing prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious diseases through clinical, behavioural, social, and implementation science. Its work spans pathogenesis, natural history, large-scale intervention evaluation, and evidence-based public health strategies, supported by strong national and international collaborations and a multidisciplinary team of clinicians, social scientists, statisticians, nurses, and research staff.

The Centre works closely with other UCL research units—including those specialising in population health, molecular epidemiology, global health trials, and innovative clinical trial design—forming a transdisciplinary ecosystem for infectious disease research. Its clinical partnerships are anchored in the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL), which delivers integrated sexual health and blood-borne virus services across North Central London and Surrey. The Mortimer Market Centre, a major hub within this network, is one of Europe's largest outpatient sexual health services, providing specialist clinics for STIs, HIV, viral hepatitis, and inclusion health populations. The Bloomsbury HIV clinic and associated services collectively care for thousands of people living with HIV and hepatitis B, supported by specialist pathways in antenatal care, menopause, emergency treatment advice, and transition services. Close links with UCLH and specialist services at the Royal Free Hospital ensure comprehensive care for HIV-related complications, creating a rich environment for clinically embedded research and training.

We arrange regular events to bring staff together from across IGH working in different themes for closer collaborative working. Team science is encouraged and valued so that staff from different disciplines work together in partnership to tackle the bigger health challenges.

Equality and diversity are integral to our approach to our work. We hold an Athena SWAN Charter Silver award, are committed Friends of Out@UCL, and champion all aspects of equality.

---

## **Main purpose of the job**

The Clinical Research Fellow/Senior Clinical Research Fellow will gain broad experience in the design and implementation of clinical research studies through providing day to day support for a portfolio of on-going clinical trials and observational studies. They will be encouraged and have the opportunity to develop their own clinical research projects and will be supported to apply for doctoral or specialist training (as appropriate). There will be opportunities to participate in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

---

## **Duties and responsibilities**

### **A: Clinical research**

- Undertake 2-3 clinical trial clinics per week seeing patients participating in clinical trials as per trial protocol.
- Participate in the trial physician rota to be available to support recruitment and follow-up on designated studies.
- Be responsible for the completion of trial documentation (as a named sub-investigator) in liaison with the trial sponsors (including pharma and academic/NHS sponsors) and the research nurses.
- Adhere strictly to the Good Clinical Practice guidelines for the conduct of clinical trials.
- Consent and recruit participants to clinical trials/studies.
- Develop and undertake clinical research project(s) in STIs/HIV/infectious diseases and related conditions under the guidance and supervision of senior academic staff.
- Undertake other clinical research activities, in line with the general responsibilities of the post, as may be directed by their academic supervisor.

### **B: Training and teaching**

- Participate in the programme of postgraduate meetings in the centre and clinical service.
- Contribute to the undergraduate and post-graduate teaching programme in the Institute. Subject to the regulations of the funding bodies, appropriately qualified members of research staff will be expected to contribute to teaching and/or other departmental activities. This may include supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate student project dissertations and marking. At the present time this is estimated to amount to a maximum of thirty contact teaching hours a year.

### **C: Other activities**

- Meet regularly with supervisor(s) to review progress and to ensure that training needs are being met.
- Contribute to the academic life of the University.
- Attend postgraduate training courses relevant to the effective execution of the responsibilities of the post.

### **D: NHS Duties**

- Under Consultant supervision, to be responsible for the clinical care of patients attending the GUM/HIV/hepatitis service including those participating in the clinical trials liaising with colleagues to ensure they receive the best standard of clinical care.

## E: Professional

- Maintain registration and a licence to practice with the GMC.
- Ensure the best standards of personal and professional performance.
- Practice within the GMC code of Good Medical Practice.
- Carry out research within the guidelines described in Good Clinical Practice (ICH) and the NHS Research Management and Governance Framework.
- Maintain a safe environment by adhering to the policies and practices of the centre.

## F: Continuing education

- The post holder will be expected to be committed to continuing professional education and to undertake training courses as necessary within and outside the University.
- If eligible, the post holder will be encouraged to develop work which would enable them to apply for a funded fellowship and/or register for a higher degree.

## General

- Follow and actively promote the UCL [Ways of Working](#).
- Contribute to teaching at IGH e.g., tutorials, personal tutoring, and marking.
- Take responsibility to carry out duties in a way that embodies UCL's environmental and social sustainability values, actively supporting [UCL's Sustainability Strategy, policies and objectives](#) within the remit of the role.
- Carry out any other duties within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the line manager.
- This job description may be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the post holder.

This role is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

The post holder will hold an Honorary Contract or Letter of Access with relevant NHS Trust(s).

# Person Specification

Note to job applicant: copy and paste the following criteria into your “Statement in support of your application” and describe underneath each criteria how you meet it, giving examples. You will be scored on how you meet each criteria.

Essential Criteria	Assessment method (Application form/ Interview / Practical Test)
<b>Qualifications, experience and knowledge</b>	
Full registration with the General Medical Council with a licence to practice	Application
Clinical experience in GUM/HIV and/or infectious diseases	Application/Interview

Clinical experience of managing patients with HIV on antiretroviral therapy	Application/Interview
Knowledge of STIs and HIV medicine	Application/Interview
Experience working within the UKs National Health Service (the NHS)	Application/Interview
<b>Skills and abilities</b>	
Commitment to carry out quality research, leading to publication	Application/Interview
Ability to work both independently and collaboratively	Application/Interview
Excellent organisational, prioritisation skills and ability to manage time and work to deadlines	Application/Interview
Excellent interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills	Application/Interview
Ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary team, and collaborate with other clinical researchers and research collaborators	Application/Interview
Quality ethical and professional standards in research and education	Application/Interview
<b>UCL Ways of Working</b>	
Committed to providing a responsive and helpful service	Interview
Making inclusivity, diversity and inter(cultural) awareness core to actions and decision-making for self and team	Interview
Making best practice an absolute priority	Interview
<b>Desirable Criteria</b>	
Master's degree or PhD in a related area	Application
Research experience in an area relevant to GUM/HIV/ID medicine	Application/Interview
Authored publications in peer-reviewed journals	Application/Interview
Experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and other forms of public presentation	Application/Interview
Knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of clinical trial design, regulatory processes, and clinical trial management	Application/Interview
<b>Additional Criteria for appointment at Grade CL 8 (Clinical Senior Research Fellow)</b> For appointment at Grade CL 8 candidates will need to demonstrate that they meet the criteria listed above for appointment at CL 7 in addition to those listed below.	
MD/PhD or equivalent research experience	Application
Evidence of research findings presented (or invitations to speak extended) at conferences or similar academic events	Application/Interview
Papers co-authored with collaborators	Application/Interview

# Apply

**To apply for this position visit:**

**[ucl.ac.uk/jobs](https://ucl.ac.uk/jobs)**

For informal enquiries about the role, please contact Dr Alejandro Arenas-Pinto on [a.arenas-pinto@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:a.arenas-pinto@ucl.ac.uk).

For queries about the recruitment and application process, please contact IGH HR Team on [IGH.HR@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:IGH.HR@ucl.ac.uk).