# Job description and selection criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job title</th>
<th>Clinical Research Fellow – Transmission-Stage and Blood-Stage Malaria Programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division</td>
<td>Medical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM) Jenner Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade and salary</td>
<td>Grade E64: £31,614 - £50,669 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract type</td>
<td>Fixed-term for 24 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Reporting to                            | Prof Sumi Biswas  
Dr Angela Minassian                                                               |
| Vacancy reference                       | 130181                                                                          |
| Additional information                  | Owing to the nature of this position, any offer of employment with the University will be subject to a satisfactory security screening and the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust issuing an honorary contract, or a Research Passport, to allow you to undertake the necessary work. |

## The role

Professor Sumi Biswas’s research group at the Jenner Institute is focused on developing innovative transmission blocking vaccine (TBV) candidates against the sexual- and mosquito-stages of the malaria parasite, testing them in pre-clinical studies with an aim to progress the most promising candidates to clinical trials. Two TBV candidates are currently being tested in Phase Ia clinical trials in Oxford and we have secured funding to test others in Phase Ia and Ila clinical trials. These include vaccines against both *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax*. We have recently been awarded a European Union Horizon 2020 grant to establish a *P. vivax* challenge model in Europe for the first time and utilize this to develop effective vaccines against multiple lifecycle stages of *P. vivax*. We actively collaborate with an increasingly large number of academic and industrial partners.

Professor Simon Draper’s research group is focussed on the development of new antibody-inducing vaccines and antibody-based intervention strategies, primarily targeted against the blood-stage malaria parasite but also other difficult disease targets including Ebola. The
group has a strong translational focus, seeking to develop innovative and new concepts in vaccine or antibody-based design and delivery. Over the last seven years we have translated nine vaccine candidates, including viral vectors and recombinant proteins, into Phase Ia and Ila clinical trials to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity in healthy volunteer subjects in the UK, including experimental malaria challenge studies to test vaccine efficacy. A number of these trials are conducted with academic and industrial collaborators at both a national and international level.

Both groups have a strong record of attracting external grant funding, a strong publication record, and have expanded significantly in recent years. Working closely together, we aim to foster scientific excellence within a friendly, open and free-thinking environment. There is a strong translational emphasis, with full integration of the clinical and laboratory teams.

We are now looking for a Clinician to play an active role in the design and execution of clinical trials of malaria vaccines for both the transmission-blocking and blood-stage groups at the Jenner Institute.

For more information about the groups, see:

http://www.jenner.ac.uk/transmission-blocking-vaccines and http://www.jenner.ac.uk/blood-stage-vaccines

**Responsibilities**

You will play an active role in the design and execution of clinical trials of malaria vaccines in Oxford. This to include the following:

- To provide clinical input into the design and execution of clinical trials with other team members,
- To work closely with the clinical trials team including project managers, nurses, recruitment coordinator and data manager in the design and conduct of clinical trials,
- Screening and vaccination of volunteers according to the protocol,
- To present results as a verbal presentation or written report for both internal meetings and those with external collaborators,
- Administrative work involved in the trials including drafting of protocols, ethical applications, advertising and recruitment, data management and analysis,
- To maintain complete, accurate, organised study files,
- To be on-call as needed for adverse events and microbial challenge studies
- To be involved as part of the wider Draper and Biswas research groups, including attending weekly lab group meetings.

All employees will have to ensure that their work in the laboratory is conducted safely at all times and, in particular, that work is undertaken following the appropriate health and safety policies and procedures for the particular area, without compromise to their own safety or that of others who may be affected.
Hazard-specific duties
This job includes the following hazards or safety-critical activities which will require successful pre-employment health screening through our Occupational Health Service before the successful candidate will be allowed to start work:

- Working with infectious pathogens (hazard group 2/3) - Hazard Group 3 pathogens
- Working with blood, human products and human tissues
- Work in clinical areas with direct contact with patients
- Work with allergens, Eg laboratory animals, pollen, dust, fish or insects etc.
- Work with any substance which has any of the following pictograms on their MSDS:
  ![Pictograms]
- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

Additional security pre-employment checks
Additional pre-employment screening is required for this post, as such; the successful candidate will be required to undergo criminal record checks/University security screening.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

- GMC registration; you must be currently qualified and licensed to practise medicine in the UK (Foundation Year 1 and 2 training completed)
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills for a wide range of audiences
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to be comfortable and confident interacting with volunteers and patients in a research study, clinical research coordinators, team members, laboratory and administrative staff, monitors, collaborating company representatives, MCA auditors and the broader research community
- Requires flexibility in the hours worked, as some out of hours work is required (especially during challenge studies) but this can be taken back as time off in lieu
- Excellent IT skills, including email, word processing, spreadsheets and databases

Desirable selection criteria

- Experience working with clinical studies, including ethics, GCP, documentation
- Previous laboratory experience relevant to malaria or infectious disease research
- Experience or an ability to use statistical software programmes
- Knowledge of immunology
- Holding a MRCP or MRCS (UK)

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford’s researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.
We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all of our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2014/15 exceeded £522.9m and ranked first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 spin-off companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit [www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation)

**Medical Sciences**

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching.

We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: [www.medsci.ox.ac.uk](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk)

**Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM)**

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM) is one of the largest departments of the University of Oxford and is part of the Medical Sciences Division, with responsibility for a significant part of the teaching of clinical students within the Medical School. The Department also has a substantial research programme which requires high quality administrative management.

NDM has significant financial turnover and complexity, resulting from its diverse research portfolio, its geographical spread and its close links with NHS funding and strategic teams involved in the development and delivery of increasingly integrated clinical research platforms.

...fostering your career in science

For more information please visit: [www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home](http://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home)
The University of Oxford is a member of the Athena SWAN Charter and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award. The Nuffield Department of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/athena-swan

**The Jenner Institute - Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine (CCVTM), Churchill Hospital, Oxford**

Scientists at the Jenner Institute, University of Oxford, have developed new candidate vaccines for malaria and tuberculosis. For the last ten years we have been conducting phase I and Ila clinical trials to evaluate the safety, immunogenicity and efficacy of these vaccines in healthy volunteer subjects in the UK, as well as conducting a number of trials in Africa. New candidate vaccines for ‘flu and hepatitis C are also about to enter clinical trials.

For more information please visit: http://www.jenner.ac.uk/ and http://www.tropicalmedicine.ox.ac.uk/home

**How to apply**

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the ‘Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford’ document, at www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/.

If you would like to apply, click on the Apply Now button on the ‘Job Details’ page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents as PDF files with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by midday on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

**Information for priority candidates**

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments).
Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. Please check your spam/junk mail regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University’s pre-employment screening procedures, found at: www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University’s policy on retirement

The University operates an employer justified retirement age for all academic and academic-related posts (grade 6 and above), for which the retirement date is the 30 September immediately preceding the 68th birthday. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revaim/.

For existing employees any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revproc/

There is no normal or fixed age at which support staff in posts at grades 1–5 have to retire. Support staff may retire once they reach the minimum pension age stipulated in the Rules of the pension scheme to which they belong.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
Benefits of working at the University

**Training and Development**
A range of training and development opportunities are available at the University. Further details can be found at [www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html](http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html).

**For research staff only: Support for Research Staff**
There is a particularly wide range of support for career development for research staff. Please visit [www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers](http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers) to find out more.

**Pensions**
The University offers generous occupational pension schemes for eligible staff members. Further details can be found at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epp/pensions/pensionspolicy/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epp/pensions/pensionspolicy/).

**Information for international staff (or those relocating from another part of the UK)**
A wealth of information is available on the University’s International Staff website for staff who are relocating to Oxford from abroad, at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/).

**The University of Oxford Newcomers’ Club**
The Newcomers’ Club is aimed at helping partners of newly-arrived visiting scholars, graduate students and academic members of the University to settle in and to meet people in Oxford.

**Transport schemes**
The University offers a range of travel schemes and public transport travel discounts to staff. Full details are available at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/).

**University Club and University Sports Facilities**
The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a Club bar, a cafe and sporting facilities, including a gym. See [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) for all further details.

University staff can use the University Sports Centre at discounted rates, and have the chance to join sports clubs. Please visit [www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities](http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities).

**Childcare and Childcare Vouchers**
The University offers quality childcare provision services at affordable prices to its employees. For full details about the services offered, please visit [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare). **NB: Due to the high demand for the University’s nursery places there is a long waiting list.**

The University also offers nursery fee payment schemes to eligible staff as an opportunity to save tax and national insurance on childcare costs. Please visit [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare).

**Disabled staff**
The University is committed to supporting members of staff with a disability or long-term health condition and has a dedicated Staff Disability Advisor. Please visit [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff) for further details.

**BUPA - Eduhealth**
Bupa Eduhealth Essentials private medical insurance offers special rates for University of Oxford staff and their families [www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site](http://www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site/).

**All other benefits**
For other benefits, such as free entry to colleges, the Botanic Gardens and staff discounts offered by third party companies, please see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/).