

<b>Job title</b>	Research fellow in infectious disease modelling
<b>Division</b>	Medical Sciences
<b>Department</b>	Nuffield Department of Medicine
<b>Location</b>	Big Data Institute, Li Ka Shing Centre for Health and Information Discovery, Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7LF
<b>Grade and salary</b>	Grade 7: £36,024 - £44,263 with a discretionary range to £48,350 p.a. (pro rata)
<b>Hours</b>	Full time (part-time may be considered at a minimum of 22.5h / 0.60FTE)
<b>Contract type</b>	Fixed-term contract until 31 March 2025
<b>Reporting to</b>	Professor Deirdre Hollingsworth, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
<b>Vacancy reference</b>	167128
<b>Additional information</b>	Funding provided by the Children's Investment Fund Foundation the Li Ka Shing and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

<b>Research topic</b>	Modelling the impact of interventions for neglected tropical diseases
<b>Principal Investigator / supervisor</b>	Professor Deirdre Hollingsworth
<b>Project team</b>	Hollingsworth Research Group
<b>Project web site</b>	<a href="https://www.bdi.ox.ac.uk/Team/deirdre-hollingsworth">https://www.bdi.ox.ac.uk/Team/deirdre-hollingsworth</a>
<b>Funding partner</b>	The funds supporting this research project are provided by the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Li Ka Shing Foundation



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## The role

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, based at the University of Oxford, working with Professor Deirdre Hollingsworth and neglected tropical diseases (NTD) modelling consortium to directly inform global and national policy on a group of diseases which predominantly affect the lowest income populations globally. You will be working on data analysis and models of the transmission trachoma and other NTDs. They will also be providing support to collaborators from low and middle-income countries in developing these techniques and uptake of the work.

Professor Hollingsworth's group is a world leader in the development of statistical, mathematical, and computational models which inform disease dynamics and the translation of outputs to national and global health policy. Professor Hollingsworth has made significant contributions to the study of neglected tropical diseases, COVID-19, HIV, and malaria. Research outputs range from analytical mathematical models through to large-scale individual-based simulation as well as statistics and Bayesian inference.

Her highly motivated, collaborative research group lead funded, international consortiums in modelling, neglected tropical diseases and vaccine impact modelling. They are members of Joint Universities Pandemic Epidemiological Research (JUNIPER) consortium, the leading network of infectious disease modellers across the UK. They will also have the opportunity to supervise summer students and masters' students for their summer projects, as well as contributing to the development of materials to improve the uptake of modelling in low- and middle-income countries. Former post-docs have gone on to independent academic positions and prestigious fellowships across the UK and internationally, building on their experiences in delivering policy-relevant research to build their own research groups.

The NTD modelling consortium is an international network of infectious disease modellers in Europe, the USA and Africa. They work to provide policy-relevant analyses to inform the design of more effective control strategies for NTDs, which are infections which perpetuate the cycle of poverty in low-income populations.

You will be working in a multi-disciplinary, multi-national team focussed across a number of NTDs, with primary responsibility for data analysis and modelling of trachoma, a bacterial infection and leading cause of blindness globally. You will primarily be working on evaluating the impact of a trachoma control programme in close collaboration with stakeholders. However, you will work also in multidisciplinary teams on a range of epidemiological, surveillance and programmatic data and statistical and mechanistic models across the NTDs for real-world impact.

## Responsibilities

You will:

- Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of work with collaborators to meet deadlines for funders and external partners.
- Adapt existing and develop new research methodologies and materials to inform the design of control policies.
- Prepare working theories and analyse qualitative and/or quantitative data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining theories as appropriate.
- Contribute to other tasks within the group that fall within the remit of the funded project.
- Contribute ideas for new research projects.



- Develop ideas for generating research income, and present detailed research proposals to senior researchers.
- Collaborate in the preparation of research publications.
- Present papers to funders and stakeholders and at conferences or public meetings.
- Act as a source of information and advice to other members of the group on methodologies or procedures.
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone.
- Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups.
- Maintain computer software or websites as required and engage in outreach activities.
- Act as a source of scientific information and advice to other members of the group.
- Participate in and support the public engagement and widening access activities of the Department and the University. This is anticipated to be not more than 2 days per year.
- Undertake mandatory training as required by the University, Division and Department. The specific list of training courses may change from time-to-time, in response to both legal and internal University requirements.

## Selection criteria

### Essential

- Hold a PhD/Dphil (or close to completion) in a quantitative research area such as mathematical modelling, computing or statistics, together with relevant experience.
- Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to work within established research programmes in infectious disease modelling.
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities and independently lead research, to work collaboratively with others and to work to deadlines.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings.
- Strong analytical and quantitative skills and excellent problem-solving abilities.
- Expertise in at least one programming language (R, C, Python etc).
- Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations.
- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and research income generation.

### Desirable

- Experience of independently managing a discrete area of a research project.
- Experience of actively collaborating in the development of research articles for publication and track record of publication in international journals.
- Experience in the mathematical modelling of infectious diseases.
- Track record of releasing software for general use.

## Pre-employment screening

### Standard checks

If you are offered the post, the offer will be subject to standard pre-employment checks. You will be asked to provide: proof of your right-to-work in the UK; proof of your identity; and (if we haven't done so already) we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health



declaration so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities for which you may need us to make appropriate adjustments.

Please read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures at: <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks>

## 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, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, 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 and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, and in recent years we have spun out 15-20 new companies every year. 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).

## About the Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM)

The Nuffield Department of Medicine aims to improve healthcare internationally through its research and teaching. Over the last fifty years, it has pioneered the use of genetics, structural and cellular biology to understand susceptibility to human disease; at the same time, it remains a department of clinical medicine with a clinical interface at the core of its success. The NDM is the largest department in the University of Oxford and the largest department of medicine in Europe by research income.

The department is organised around a series of strong and identifiably unique institutes, centres and units; but its aim is to be as non-hierarchical and closely-knit as possible, to encourage the very best interactions and the exchange of ideas between its staff. It supports teaching to encourage the very best students to join academic research. It maintains a £800m portfolio of externally funded research from over 140 different sponsors/funders, and has an annual turnover approaching £200m. The department's activity is run directly through the University, but also through a series of subsidiary companies and other legal vehicles, tailored to the activity and the countries within which it operates. Across these vehicles and partnerships, the department has over 3,000 staff and students working solely on, or supporting, its research and teaching; and 1,000 of these staff are based in Oxford. The NDM holds collaborative grants with ~40 other departments or centres in the University of Oxford.

The NDM is recognised for its diverse impacts in the field of healthcare. These range from the discovery of the mechanism of hypoxic gene regulation (Sir Peter Ratcliffe, Nobel Prize 2019) to the worldwide introduction of artemisinin and combination therapy for malaria (Sir Nick White and others). The underlying strength of the department, and its ability to bring together disciplines, has been evident through its contributions to the pandemic response, including: ISARIC and its overseas activity, IDDO and TGHN, the work of the Africa-Asia Programmes, the Oxford-AZ vaccine, elucidating the structural biology of variants and neutralising antibodies, the Office of National Statistics study, the UK Serology Surveillance platform, the standard testing of commercial assays for the Government, Mobile Apps, RECOVERY trial leading to the worldwide use of dexamethasone, the NHS cohort studies, the COMBAT study. This activity has certainly saved more than 2m lives during the pandemic.

The major strategic plans of the NDM are built around, (1) establishing a step-change in to clinical pathology and the study of human disease in all clinical specialities; (2) accelerating the discovery of new medicines; and (3) addressing the burden of worldwide infectious disease, including emerging threats. The GSK-Oxford Molecular and Computational Medicine Institute (MCMI) is aligned with this vision and will be primarily based in its Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics and Big Data Institute with strong links to other departments and its overseas activity.

The NDM has a strong commitment to careers and equality of opportunity and treatment. The Department holds an Athena SWAN Silver award in recognition of the commitment made to promote gender equality through our organisational and cultural practices and our efforts to improve the working environment for both men and women. For more information, please see the NDM pages of [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#).

For more information on NDM please visit: <https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk>

## **Tropical Medicine and Global Health**

The Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health is a world leading Centre within the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Oxford, comprised of research groups who are permanently based in Africa and Asia as well as across two sites in Oxford.

Our research ranges from clinical studies to behavioural sciences, with capacity building integral to all of our activities.

Our research is conducted at three Wellcome Trust Africa and Asia Programmes in Kenya, Thailand and Viet Nam as well as a growing Centre in Oxford. The Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health also brings together a number of sister groups in Laos, Tanzania, Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Cambodia and Nepal, as well as multiple collaborators around the world.

Tackling infectious diseases, which kill many millions of people every year, is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. We are researching solutions to the increasingly urgent problems these diseases cause.

The Centre's annual research income is around £60m per annum with over 200 externally funded research grants and donations.

For more information please visit: <http://www.tropicalmedicine.ox.ac.uk/home>



## How to apply

Applications are made through our e-recruitment system and you will find all the information you need about how to apply on our Jobs website <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/how-to-apply>.

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.

As part of your application you will be asked to 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 must explain how you meet each of 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. Please note using a long file name may prevent you from uploading your documents.

- [http://www.ox.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_university/jobs/research/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/research/)

All applications must be received by **midday** UK time 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 department(s).

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).

## If you need help

Application FAQs, including technical troubleshooting advice is available at: <https://staff.web.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support-faqs>. Non-technical questions about this job should be addressed to the recruiting department directly [recruitment@ndm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@ndm.ox.ac.uk)

To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: [www.recruit.ox.ac.uk](http://www.recruit.ox.ac.uk).

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our online recruitment portal to confirm receipt of your application. **Please check your spam/junk mail** if you do not receive this email.

# Important information for candidates

## Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy>. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy>.

## The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for very senior research posts at **grade RSIV/D35 and clinical equivalents E62 and E82**, which with effect from 1 October 2023 will be 30 September before the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. The justification for this is explained at: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

For **existing** employees on these grades, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at other grades have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

## 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

## Employee benefits

University employees enjoy 38 days' paid holiday, generous pension schemes, travel discounts, and a variety of professional development opportunities. Our range of other employee benefits and discounts also includes free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/staff-benefits>

## University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club offers social, sporting, and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and <https://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/>.

## Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation, and local schools. See <https://welcome.ox.ac.uk/>

There is also a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents. See <https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/visa-loan-scheme>

## Family-friendly benefits

With one of the most generous family leave schemes in the Higher Education sector, and a range of flexible working options, Oxford aims to be a family-friendly employer. We also subscribe to the Work+Family Space, a service that provides practical advice and support for employees who have caring responsibilities. The service offers a free telephone advice line, and the ability to book emergency back-up care for children, adult dependents and elderly relatives. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/my-family-care>

The University has excellent childcare services, including five University nurseries as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details, including how to apply and the costs, see <https://childcare.admin.ox.ac.uk/>

## Disabled

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor, see <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/disability-support>

## Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/networks>

## The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff settle into Oxford, and provides them with an opportunity to meet people and make connections in the local area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk).