

Division of Cardiovascular Medicine

Job title	Intermediate Transition Research Fellowships in cardiovascular research: Oxford British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence (Oxford BHF CRE)
Division	Medical Sciences Division or Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division
Department	The posts may be based in any department which is part of the Oxford BHF CRE, within the research group of a current Oxford BHF CRE Principal Investigator: https://www.cardioscience.ox.ac.uk/bhf-centre-of-research-excellence/departments-centres-and-institutes
Location	Please see above
Grade and salary	Basic Science (non-clinical) Grade 7: £36,024 - £48,350 p.a Clinical Grade E63: £29,384 - £58,398 p.a
Hours	Full time (Part time hours can be considered)
Contract type	Fixed term for 2 years
Reporting to	To be confirmed on appointment, dependent upon BHF CRE Research Theme and research group selected.
Vacancy reference	Intermediate Basic Science (non-clinical) post reference: 167193 Intermediate Clinical post reference: 167192
Additional information	Interview scheduled to take place on 06 November 2023 For informal inquiries please contact: Philippa Major: Philippa.major@cardiov.ox.ac.uk Harry Clarke: cvm_personnel@cardiov.ox.ac.uk

Research topic	Cardiovascular research
Principal Investigator / supervisor	A list of BHF CRE Research Themes and all Principal Investigators (PIs) are listed on the Oxford Cardiovascular Science website: https://www.cardioscience.ox.ac.uk/bhf-centre-of-research-excellence
Project team	To be hosted in the Research Group of an Oxford BHF CRE PI
Project web site	https://www.cardioscience.ox.ac.uk/bhf-centre-of-research-excellence
Funding partner	The funds supporting the research fellowships are provided by the Oxford British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence

The role

The aim of the Oxford British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence (Oxford BHF CRE) Transition Fellowship programme is to support and develop outstanding postdoctoral researchers, to enable them to successfully apply for external funding opportunities and to foster and develop future leaders in cardiovascular research. Each research group across the Oxford BHF CRE focuses on different aspects of cardiovascular science. Together they cover the translational research spectrum from basic research through to clinical and population health research. Intermediate Transition Research Fellowships are available to high-quality individuals in any of our four multi-disciplinary research themes of Big Data, Human Genetics, Target Discovery and Development & Regeneration.

The expectation is that by the end of an Intermediate Transition Fellowship, award holders will secure a competitive peer-reviewed 3 – 5 year senior (or equivalent) fellowship from the BHF or other external funding agency. We look for individuals who have emerging independence in a field that will add value to the Oxford cardiovascular research programme, and we will use these awards to build a cadre of externally-funded and highly competitive young group leaders.

Successful applicants will have a strong record of research, and its communication, in a relevant subject. The post holders will also need to be able to work independently as well as in active collaboration with multi-disciplinary partners.

Intermediate Transition Fellowships are awarded for a two-year duration, with possible renewal for a third year, and will cover the award holder's salary along with appropriate consumables & travel costs for conference attendance/collaboration placements. Support for a research assistant may be requested where relevant and fully justified.

Applications for Transition Fellowships are invited in any of our four research Themes, from either basic scientists or clinicians. Please find further information on the Oxford BHF CRE Themes and lead researchers [here](#)

Responsibilities

Research

The key responsibility is to undertake cutting-edge research to address questions within the remit of the Oxford BHF CRE.

The post holder will plan, manage and conduct a programme of cardiac research and associated activities in liaison with an Oxford BHF CRE lead investigator, and other colleagues in the research group as appropriate, to ensure integration with the Oxford BHF CRE research Themes.

The post holder will be expected to play a significant role in the implementation of the current research agenda, and have the creativity and initiative to develop new ideas and provide the intellectual energy and independent thinking necessary to deliver the research.

Communication and translation

The post holder will communicate complex research ideas and results using high-level skills and a range of media, including writing scientific papers and presenting research results at internal, national and international meetings.

Strategy and funding.

The post holder will identify opportunities and write applications for external funding, and are expected to submit one or more applications to an external sponsor for an independent senior research fellowship within two years from the appointment.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

- PhD/DPhil completed in a relevant specialist subject area.
- Basic scientists – Intermediate (Grade 7 post) will typically have a number of years of successful postdoctoral work and first-author high-impact research papers.
- Clinician scientists - Intermediate (Grade E64 post) will have completed a PhD and typically will be a specialist trainee (with NTN).
Discussion with an Oxford BHF CRE sponsor/PI is strongly advised regarding expected date of CCT prior to application. This is to ensure candidates will be eligible for external fellowships at Intermediate level after a 2-year BHF CRE Transition Fellowship.
- A strong CV, having published in high impact journals as first author and presented at international meetings.
- An enthusiastic interest in cardiovascular research.
- Postdoctoral research experience of research in an area relevant to the Oxford BHF CRE Research Themes.
- The ability to plan and manage own academic research and associated activities.
- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and research income generation.
- Ability to work with meticulous attention to detail.
- Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills and leadership, with the ability to communicate research ideas and results in a clear and logical way and the ability to confidently and effectively interact with colleagues and the broader research community.
- Outstanding communication and presentation skills.
- A conscientious and enthusiastic working approach.
- Excellent planning, organisational and problem-solving skills.
- Willingness to undertake management and administrative duties.

Desirable selection criteria

- A track record of securing research funding
- Experience of working on multidisciplinary projects/teams and the synthesis of different types of evidence.
- Experience of setting up and running studies and/or trials
- Experience of research translation and/or knowledge exchange with clinicians and policy makers.
- Has developed new approaches, methods or techniques that have added value to scientific research.

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.

The Medical Sciences Division

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: <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk>

Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division

The Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division consists of ten constituent departments: The Department of Chemistry, the Department of Computer Science, the Department of Earth Sciences, the Department of Engineering Science, the Department of Materials, Mathematical Institute, the Department of Physics, Department of Plant Sciences, Department of Zoology and the Department of Statistics. The division provides a framework for interdisciplinary teaching and research.

The disciplines within the MPLS Division regularly appear at the highest levels in rankings, including the Times Higher Education and QS world rankings.

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

About the Oxford British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence (Oxford BHF CRE)

The Oxford BHF CRE is supported by funding from the British Heart Foundation and brings together a network of researchers covering the entire cardiovascular research spectrum, from discovery science through to clinical and population health research.

The Centre has four core Research Themes and includes over 70 individual Principal Investigators and their research groups across the University.

The four selected focal areas for the BHF CRE are **Big Data, Human Genetics, Target Discovery and Development & Regeneration** which are categorised by scientific approach rather than disease entity, and are designed to facilitate cross-fertilisation.

Aims & ambitions of the Oxford BHF Centre of Research Excellence

- Build a truly collaborative cardiovascular community in Oxford, where epidemiologists, basic scientists, clinicians, mathematicians and chemists share ideas and expertise to drive forward important new research
- Use the BHF CRE funding to engineer solutions across the spectrum of cardiovascular science (population, clinical, molecular) to enable teams of investigators to address their research questions by employing multidisciplinary approaches
- Empower researchers to work across disease areas to ensure insights and reagents arising from research into one disease can be harnessed to inform and maximise impact in cardiovascular research
- Support capacity development and skills acquisition to develop the future leaders in cardiovascular research
- Develop and strengthen collaborations with academic colleagues and industry partners around the globe
- Engage a wider audience with our research programme and developments
- To become the leading UK centre for cardiovascular research and amongst the leading cardiovascular centres worldwide

<https://www.cardioscience.ox.ac.uk/bhf-centre-of-research-excellence>

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>.

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

As part of your application you will be asked to provide details of two referees, preferably in addition to your Oxford BHF CRE sponsor, and indicate whether we can contact them now.

The following sections are required for a complete application:

- A statement of career intentions, including how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience and how you will use the transition fellowship to prepare for a future external fellowship application. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants). (maximum 2 pages)
- CV including publication list (maximum 4 pages)
- Main application: a research plan outlining an overview of proposed research, an explanation of how the research will enhance cardiovascular research in Oxford, a summary budget and a brief justification for the requested budget (maximum 4 pages including reference-list relevant to the proposed research project). The research project should be developed in liaison with an Oxford BHF CRE Principal Investigator.
- A letter of support from a sponsor who is a Principal Investigator of the Oxford BHF CRE, including confirmation that they have approved research space to host the applicant. Additional letters from research collaborators may be included if directly relevant to your transition fellowship application eg confirmation of willingness to host you for a period of time working/training in their research group.

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

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

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>

Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties

This job includes hazards or safety-critical activities. If you are offered the post, you will be asked to complete a health questionnaire which will be assessed by our Occupational Health Service, and the offer of employment will be subject a successful outcome of this assessment.

The hazards or safety-critical duties involved may include the following:

- Working at heights
- Night working (11pm-6am)
- Lone Working
- Work in hot or cold environments
- Driving on University business
- Working with Ionising Radiation
- Regular manual handling
- Open food handling
- Working with category 3b or 4 lasers (laser safety class)

- 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 (NOT administrative roles)
- 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:



- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

Additional security pre-employment checks

This job includes duties that will require additional security pre-employment checks:

- A satisfactory basic Disclosure and Barring Service check or University overseas security check, due to working in a research environment where the postholder may have knowledge or information concerning animal research and/or other knowledge of pathogens and toxins.
- University security screening (identity check).

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

Help and support is available from: <https://hrsystems.admin.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support>

If you require any further assistance please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk.

To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

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

Informal Enquiries

Prospective candidates are encouraged to make informal enquiries regarding the fellowships, and enquires may be directed by email to Professor Hugh Watkins (hugh.watkins@rdm.ox.ac.uk) or Philippa Major, Research Facilitator for the Oxford BHF CRE (philippa.major@cardiov.ox.ac.uk).

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 70th 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 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 dependants. 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 staff

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.