

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	Clinical Trials Assistant (with play)
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Paediatrics
Location	Oxford Vaccine Group, CCVTM, Churchill Hospital, Oxford
Grade and salary	Grade 4: £25,138 to £28,759 per annum (with a discretionary range to £31,396 per annum)
Hours	<i>Full time (36.5 hours per week)</i>
Contract type	<i>Fixed-Term for 12 months in the first instance</i>
Reporting to	Jack Howes, Clinical Trials Coordinator
Vacancy reference	170577

The role

Overview of the role

Under minimal supervision the Clinical Trials Assistant is responsible for the effective and efficient day to day administration of research studies to enable the academic research staff to fulfil their responsibilities. The Clinical Trials Assistant is also required to carry out varied office duties and specific study related tasks and acts as a pivotal point of contact for the clinical trial team. The role includes assisting the paediatric study team by providing distraction to babies and children on visits within the community.

Responsibilities

- To administer, maintain and coordinate the logistical aspects of the clinical trials according to Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- To liaise with study participants and/or the study team to book appointments, resolve disrupted appointment times, offer new appointments and re-arrange existing appointments according to protocol timelines.
- To monitor and maintain the study documents, databases, spreadsheets and equipment.
- To establish and be able to maintain effective filing systems including case report forms, investigator site files and administrative files.
- To liaise with the external printing company in preparing and ordering the printing of study documents.
- To ensure an initial supply of documents, paperwork and other equipment is ready for the start of the trial.
- To send weekly recruitment updates to those involved in the studies.
- To attend study meetings, including developing the agenda as well as recording the minutes and action points.
- Be responsible for creating and maintaining study databases to track the recruitment and progress of clinical studies.
- To be responsible for ordering and tracking participant payments for studies.
- To proof-read documents thoroughly before regulatory submissions and print runs.
- To monitor University Sponsored Studies within the group according to Good Clinical Practice Guidelines and study specific protocols, highlighting errors and discrepancies and bring these to the attention of senior study staff.
- Be responsible for organisation/management of the Group's research archive files, including maintaining a database of archived materials and summaries of current/previous research activities.
- Maintenance of staff training records and provide support in training new starters.
- To maintain confidentiality of issues relating to the families participating in research studies.
- To adhere to Oxford Vaccine Group Standard Operating Procedures for the conduct of studies.
- To be aware of the DoH Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care governing the conduct of research.
- Communicate effectively with colleagues, as well as study participants, using initiative and judgment to solve problems and provide feedback to senior colleagues as appropriate.
- To undertake clinic support duties such as; being the receptionist on clinic to welcome participants, frequently collect samples taken in clinic and deliver them to the local lab team, sign in/out participants, observation of participants post vaccination and appropriate tasks to facilitate the successful running of the clinic.
- General office administration in this role as appropriate:
 - Photocopying, shredding, filing and arranging couriers
 - To assist the study team with any other data collation and general office duties
- Deal with queries from members of the public, study participants, employees and line managers over the phone, by fax, by email and face-to-face
- Other duties, to be defined from time-to-time, where appropriate to the grade

Paediatric Studies

- To assist the study team when obtaining venous blood samples from babies and children by holding and providing distraction to the participant and family
- To assist the clinical team when vaccinations are given or samples taken
- To attend in service training, including child protection training and be aware of current trends in childcare

Selection criteria

Essential

1. Experience in research clinical trials administration including working knowledge of regulatory and governance requirements for clinical trials
2. Demonstrable experience in an administrative role working in an office environment
3. Excellent written and oral communication skills
4. Proven evidence of excellent organisational and time management skills
5. Ability to work unsupervised taking responsibility for own actions, including appropriate use of initiative and problem solving
6. Comprehensive knowledge of standard office software packages and IT skills including database entries and queries (Excel and Access)
7. Experience working with confidential information for example medical records or clinical trial participant information
8. Service oriented approach, flexible, reliable and proactive towards changing study teams needs
9. Ability to work precisely according to procedures, rules and regulations
10. Experience and/or knowledge of monitoring clinical research trials
11. Ability to be flexible in working hours according to study requirements
12. Experience of working with babies/children
13. Willingness to assist the research team with venepuncture and vaccination in babies and children
14. Willingness to attend a resuscitation course
15. Current driving licence with use of own car (or ability to travel independently across the Thames Valley for clinical trial visits)

Desirable

1. Experience of university procedures and computer systems
2. Further education qualification in administrative field
3. Experience with proof reading documents and document creation
4. A formal childcare qualification

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. . If you have previously worked for the University we will also verify key information such as your dates of employment and reason for leaving your previous role with the department/unit where you worked. 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 are as follows:

- Working with blood, human products and human tissues
- Work in clinical areas with direct contact with patients

Additional security pre-employment checks

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

- A satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check due to regulated activity involving children.
- University security screening (e.g. identity 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.

Oxford Vaccine Group

The Oxford Vaccine Group staff are based within a purpose built centre on the Churchill Hospital site and is part of the Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine (CCVTM). Administration of the Oxford Vaccine Group is provided by the University Department of Paediatrics which is currently situated in the Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe site. The Department has clinical and research facilities both within the main hospital, the Women's Centre and the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, and has a major interest in infectious diseases of infancy and childhood.

The aim of the Oxford Vaccine Group (OVG) is to co-ordinate expertise in the study of infectious disease and immunology in order to facilitate research on the development and implementation of vaccines. This may include new, improved or combined vaccines.

The Oxford Vaccine Group is led by Professor Andrew J Pollard, Professor of Paediatric Infection and Immunity. Core group members include a Clinical Team Leader, Consultant Vaccinologist, clinical research fellows, research nurses, research assistants, play assistants and secretarial support. Wider group members include professionals from a range of specialities including adult infectious diseases, tropical medicine, immunologists, microbiologists, a statistician, a community paediatrician, a public health consultant and the district immunisation co-ordinator.

Recent studies of the group include:

- New generation meningococcal conjugate vaccines
- Meningococcal B vaccine development
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine studies
- An H1N1 vaccine study
- Development of a typhoid challenge model
- An Ebola vaccine Phase 1 trial

For more information please visit: www.paediatrics.ox.ac.uk/ovg

Department of Paediatrics

The Department of Paediatrics is a world leader in child health research and hosts internationally renowned research programmes in drug development, gastroenterology, haematology, HIV, immunology, neuroimaging, neuromuscular diseases and vaccinology. Our work spans from early proof-of concept fundamental science, all the way up to its application in clinical settings.

We continue to shape the landscape of medical science through positively impacting the lives of millions of children from our global research programmes, academic resources, and commitment to success. Our broad research base positions the department in a pivotal role and subsequently a world leader in child health. With research facilities in the UK and abroad, we work on a global scale, building a paediatric network in the medical science community. We are committed to inform and inspire external audiences worldwide through our public engagement and outreach activities.

In 2021, we successfully administered a grant value of £130,895,28 obtained through 168 projects. Our strong relationship with funding bodies have also been a contributor to the successes and milestones in children's health research. With strong support from the Wellcome Trust, NIH, Cancer Research UK, UKRI, MRC, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Academy of Medical Sciences and the NIHR, we have employed 360+ staff, researchers, and students. These figures continue to grow as we expand our activities to overcome the multitude of challenges within children's research health.

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

The Department of Paediatrics holds a silver Athena Swan award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

Medical Sciences Division

We are an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching, and 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/>

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 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)

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.

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 and recruitment@paediatrics.ox.ac.uk 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 at recruitment@paediatrics.ox.ac.uk or using the contact details in the online advertisement.

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.

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** of 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 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> Childcare

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.

Oxford Research Staff Society (OxRSS)

A society run by and for Oxford University research staff. It offers researchers a range of social and professional networking opportunities. Membership is free, and all researchers employed by Oxford University are welcome to join. Subscribe at researchstaff-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk to join the mailing list to find out about upcoming events and other information for researchers, or contact the committee on committee@oxrss.ox.ac.uk. For more information, see www.ox.ac.uk/oxrss, Twitter/ X @ResStaffOxford, and Facebook www.facebook.com/oxrss.