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| Excellence Fellowship |  |
| UCL Excellence Fellow based in UCL School of Life and Medical Sciences (SLMS) | Grade: UCL Grade 8 (non-clinical) or StR/Junior Doctors Pay Scale (clinical) |
| Department: Division or Institute within SLMS of UCL Sponsor | Location: To be determined based on sponsor |

#### Reports to

**LONDON’S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY**

Director of SLMS Division/Institute where appointment is made.

#### Context

UCL’s Excellence Fellowship Programme seeks to recruit the highest calibre early career researchers from across the globe, supporting them to establish their independent career and become outstanding research leaders of the future. It is expected that applicants be at the cusp of independence with a vision and skills to implement a creative and influential independent research programme.

Fellowship posts are available in the School of Life and Medical Sciences (SLMS), which comprises the Faculties of Brain Sciences, Life Sciences, Medical Sciences and Population Health Sciences. Applications are welcome from clinical and non-clinical researchers across the full range of disciplines in life and medical sciences, including clinical, applied and population health science.

These prestigious fellowships, funded for three years, are intended to support **clinical or non-clinical** researchers to develop an outstanding and innovative research programme and to establish their independent research careers. Candidates must be able to demonstrate an exceptional track record in their research field to date, and will have begun to build a reputation for the quality of their research, but will not yet have established an independent career or led a research group.

***Sponsor***

Applicants must identify a UCL academic(s) within SLMS to sponsor their application. This sponsor should be a Group Leader, Head of Research Department, or Division/Institute Director, depending on the specific location. The sponsor(s) should be able to assure the selection panel that the Fellow will be welcomed into the host department as an independent researcher. Candidates must contact and discuss their application with the potential sponsor at an early stage prior to submission. Candidates wishing to work in interdisciplinary fields may be jointly sponsored by more than one UCL academic.

***Funding***

In addition to three years’ salary, fellows will receive up to £50,000 for research expenses.

Posts will be offered at UCL Grade 8 and depending on experience. Clinical applicants will be appointed at the equivalent STR or JDPS payscales. Please note that consultant salaries will not be covered by this programme over the course of the fellowship and clinicians will be expected to complete the fellowship prior to taking up a consultant level post.

#### Main purpose of the job

* To conduct outstanding, creative, and innovative research in order to develop internationally renowned outcomes through high impact publications.
* To establish an independent research career through developing a unique research programme and securing substantial peer-reviewed funding.

#### Duties and responsibilities

* Generate and pursue independent and original research ideas, design and conduct a successful programme of investigation and develop innovative, world class research.
* Secure funding from research councils, charities and other funding agencies as appropriate for a personal fellowship during this appointment, and/or substantial grant income.
* Publish (as senior author) in high quality peer reviewed national and international journals.
* Participate in seminars and workshops as appropriate.
* Present research at national and international conferences/meetings as appropriate.
* Develop research networks locally, nationally and internationally in support of the research programme including facilitating and participating in cross-cutting research collaborations.
* Provide guidance to other staff and students in his/her specialist area.
* Take part in knowledge transfer activities, as appropriate.
* Take part in enabling activities, as appropriate.
* Seek opportunities to manage own continuing professional development throughout the fellowship programme.
* Actively follow and promote UCL policies, including Equal Opportunities.
* Maintain awareness and observation of ethical and research governance regulations, plus fire and health and safety regulations.
* Carry out any other duties commensurate with the grade and purpose of the post.
* ***Clinical candidates***: There is scope to undertake clinical duties as part of the post at the senior registrar level. This would be negotiated on an individual basis. Please note that consultant salaries will not be covered by the programme at any point during the fellowship.

# Person Specification

| **Criteria** | **Essential or Desirable** | **Assessment method****(Application/Interview)** |
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| **Qualifications, experience and knowledge** |  |  |
| PhD in an appropriate discipline or equivalent research-related degree. The PhD must have been awarded at the point of application. | E | A |
| Significant postdoctoral research experience  | E | A/I |
| Recent record of outstanding publications with a strong portfolio of first-author publications in terms of number and quality of journal | E | A |
| Indicators of influence and reputation in the field, e.g., invitations to national/international conferences, publication of review articles/book chapters, impact on policy, patents | D | A/I |
| Demonstrated experience in research-related enabling activities, e.g., serving as peer reviewer for journals | D | A |
| Experience in securing research funding, including fellowships and small grants | D | A |
| For clinical applicants only: To be considered for clinical payscales, applicants must have an MBBS degree and GMC registration | E (clinicians) | A |
| **Skills and abilities** |  |  |
| Ability to conduct independent research | E | A/I |
| Excellence in research in identified area | E | A/I |
| Visionary approach to key directions for future research in identified area which is independent of prior supervisors or proposed collaborators | E | A/I |
| Ability to plan and implement a creative and influential independent research programme | E | A/I |
| Strong communication skills required to disseminate findings and influence the research field | E | A/I |
| Ability to network and effectively build research collaborations | D | A/I |
| Demonstrated ability to manage research budgets | D | A/I |
| **Personal attributes** |  |  |
| Resourceful and able to act on own initiative | E | A/I |
| Proactive and creative independent thinker | E | A/I |
| Vision to be a research leader and show an ability to identify and maximise potential in others | D | A/I |