# PGR Studentship Information Template 2021 entry

* Please complete the template with as much information as possible.
* \*fields are essential.
* If you have information that does not have a label, please create a new row in the table for it.

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| **\*Title of studentship** | The development of a Core Outcome Set (COS) for trials evaluating interventions focusing on adherence to appropriate polypharmacy |
| **Value / what is covered?** |  |
| **Awarding body** |  |
| **Number of studentships** | 1 |
| **\*Summary descriptive text / Example of research project** | Adherence is the extent to which a person’s medication-taking behaviour corresponds with healthcare professional recommendations. Studies consistently report non-adherence, resulting in poorer clinical, patient-reported and economic outcomes. However, measuring adherence is difficult, and in studies, a range of different outcomes have been assessed and a range of different outcome measure have been used in relation to adherence. A Core Outcome Set (COS) has been defined as a a set of important outcomes which are agreed by consensus and should be measured to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions in trials of a specific health area. This project will aim to develop a COS for adherence to appropriate polypharmacy interventions. In addition, the project will also seek to identify what outcome measurement tools should be used in such studies. |
| **\*Supervisor(s)** | Professor Carmel Hughes  Dr. Heather Barry |
| **\*Eligibility / residence Status** | UK/EU only |
| **Country** | Northern Ireland |
| **\*Start date and duration** | 1 October 2021  Three year full-time PhD |
| **\*Faculty** | Medicine, Health and Life Sciences |
| **\*Research centre / School** | School of Pharmacy |
| **Subject area** | Healthcare delivery and medicines optimisation |
| **Candidate requirements / Key skills required for the post** | Applicants should have a 1st or 2.1 honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant subject. Relevant subjects include Pharmacy, Molecular Biology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biochemistry, Biological/Biomedical Sciences, Chemistry, Engineering, or a closely related discipline. Students who have a 2.2 honours degree and a Master’s degree may also be considered, but the School reserves the right to shortlist for interview only those applicants who have demonstrated high academic attainment to date |
| **\*Deadline for applications** |  |
| **\*How to apply / contacts** | Postgraduate Research applicants for Pharmacy who are interested in applying for a fully funded DFE studentship must have applied to Queen’s, via the Direct Applications Portal, and submitted all required supporting documents by the closing date, which will be announced later in the Academic year.  <https://dap.qub.ac.uk/portal/user/u_login.php> |
| **Relevant links / more information** | <http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofPharmacy/Research/PostgraduatePositions/>  <http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofPharmacy/Research/> |
| **Keywords for search filters** | Adherence, core outcome set, interventions, medicines optimisation, polypharmacy |
| **Training provided through the research project** | The student will received training in relevant quantitative and qualitative research methodologies such as systematic reviewing and consensus techniques, and other generic research skills such as project management, scientific writing, and delivering presentations |
| **Expected impact activities** | The identification of core outcomes and how these should be measured is becoming increasingly important in health care, and in health care research. By identifying outcomes and outcome measurement tools to be used for adherence studies, particularly those focused on polypharmacy, this should lead to the generation of better evidence to inform us as to what interventions work and which used be used in everyday practice. |