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| **\*Title of studentship** | Pharmacist-led medicines optimisation case management services: evaluation and development of the Medicines Optimisation in Older People (MOOP) model |
| **Value / what is covered?** | Fully funded    100% of UK/EU tuition fees paid and an annual stipend for UK residents only (living expenses), currently at **£15,285** |
| **Awarding body** |  |
| **Number of studentships** | 1 |
| **\*Summary descriptive text / Example of research project** | Older people often have multiple co-morbid medical conditions (multimorbidity) and take multiple medicines (polypharmacy). They are at increased risk of receiving potentially inappropriate medicines, experiencing adverse drug events, and having reduced quality of life, higher mortality, and greater health services use. Medicines optimisation, defined as “a person-centred approach to safe and effective medicines use, to ensure people obtain the best possible outcomes from their medicines” (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) reduces potentially inappropriate prescribing, improves quality of care provision and generates cost-savings. A pharmacist-led medicines optimisation in older people (MOOP) model has been introduced in acute, intermediate and care home settings in Northern Ireland. This research project will evaluate the MOOP model, and aims to develop a set of standards and competencies for pharmacists working in medicines optimisation for older people. Research methods utilised will involve quantitative methods of data collection, including a modified Delphi process for the role description and essential competencies for pharmacists working in older people services, and qualitative methods such as interviews and focus groups. |
| **\*Supervisor(s)** | Dr Carole Parsons, School of Pharmacy  Dr Gillian Carter, School of Nursing and Midwifery  Dr Ruth Miller, Western Health and Social Care Trust |
| **\*Eligibility / residence Status** |  |
| **Country** | Northern Ireland |
| **\*Start date and duration** | 1st October 2022 |
| **\*Faculty** | MHLS |
| **\*Research centre / School** | Pharmacy |
| **Subject area** |  |
| **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, 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 must have applied to Queen’s, via the Direct Applications Portal.  <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** | Medicines optimisation, older people, prescribing, pharmacist, training and education |
| **Training provided through the research project** |  |
| **Expected impact activities** |  |