



Academic F2 JOB DESCRIPTION

Research Training with Academic Training Opportunities

4 month rotation (one post)

**Ophthalmology
Lead Academic: Augusto Azuara-Blanco**

Outline of the post

Prior to starting the placement

Following successful application, you are invited to **visit the Ophthalmology Department** and Centre for Public Health (CPH) to discuss the forthcoming placement with Academic Clinical Supervisors. This will help with planning a suitable research project and academic exposure.

Generic academic skills

By undertaking an academic F2 placement you will gain insights into clinical academic medicine through regular interactions with the Academic Clinical Supervisors, University scientific staff and postgraduate research students. This placement is designed to develop your knowledge, skills and aptitudes for academic medicine and to foster interest in a long-term clinical academic career.

During the 4 month placement

Academic component

On joining CPH you will have an initial appraisal meeting to review your learning portfolio and agree the educational objectives for this F2 placement. You will receive feedback from your supervisor throughout the 4-month attachment with regular assessment to ensure academic competencies are achieved.

Research skills

A research project can be chosen in one of a number of topics relevant to Ophthalmology in which the Centre for Public Health including diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, retinal vein obstruction, glaucoma, inherited retinal diseases, and low vision. There is academic expertise in the following areas:

- Experimental models
- Epidemiology
- Genetics
- Evidence synthesis
- Diagnostic technologies
- Global Eye Health
- Medical education

If possible, the research project could form the basis of an abstract to be submitted to a national meeting or a publication.

1. **Research training:** With guidance it is envisaged you will be able to complete a number of research project tasks (learn about the research governance issues relevant to clinical academic research; undertake a literature review; interrogate a database; collate biochemical and/or genetic results; practise scientific writing; presentation of data in an abstract, as a poster and/or oral presentation). To assist in this we have planned for academic F2 doctors to visit the associated laboratories and research areas with links to Ophthalmology. If interested there is also the possibility of undertaking research in medical education.
2. **Mentorship:** You will have access to experienced clinical academic staff (Prof Usha Chakravarthy, Professor Augusto-Azuara Blanco, Professor Noemi Lois, Prof. Nathan Congdon, Dr Michael Williams, Dr. Ruth Hogg, and Dr. David Armstrong), and clinicians with active research portfolios, Miss Giuliana Silvestri and Professor Jonathan Jackson as project supervisors. Senior scientific staff (Prof A Stitt, Prof Heping Xu, Dr David Simpson, Dr Tim Curtis, and Dr Denise McDonald) are also available to provide advice and encouragement to help you pursue a career in academic medicine.

Teaching skills

Ophthalmology has active undergraduate and postgraduate educational opportunities.

1. You will be encouraged to participate in the undergraduate teaching of Ophthalmology to 3rd year medical students both in the core curriculum and SSC programme – depending on the time of year (seminar and outpatient clinical teaching). This teaching will be directly

observed by your academic supervisors with multiple opportunities for feedback to improve your confidence and competence.

2. Formal postgraduate education includes weekly postgraduate class which includes case based learning and guest speaker (on Fridays p.m.) and weekly Journal clubs (on Tuesdays).

Clinical component

There will be F2-level clinical feedback, appraisal and assessment as documented in the Foundation Programme Curriculum (www.mmc.nhs.uk). You will have particular opportunities to expand your knowledge of management of diseases in an outpatient setting, eye casualty, inpatient management and observation in theatre. This will provide numerous encounters suitable for recording F2 competencies in mini-CEX and CBL formats. Tuition will also be provided on appropriate construction of dictated letters to fellow health professional and patients (an important generic skill).

Provisional job plan

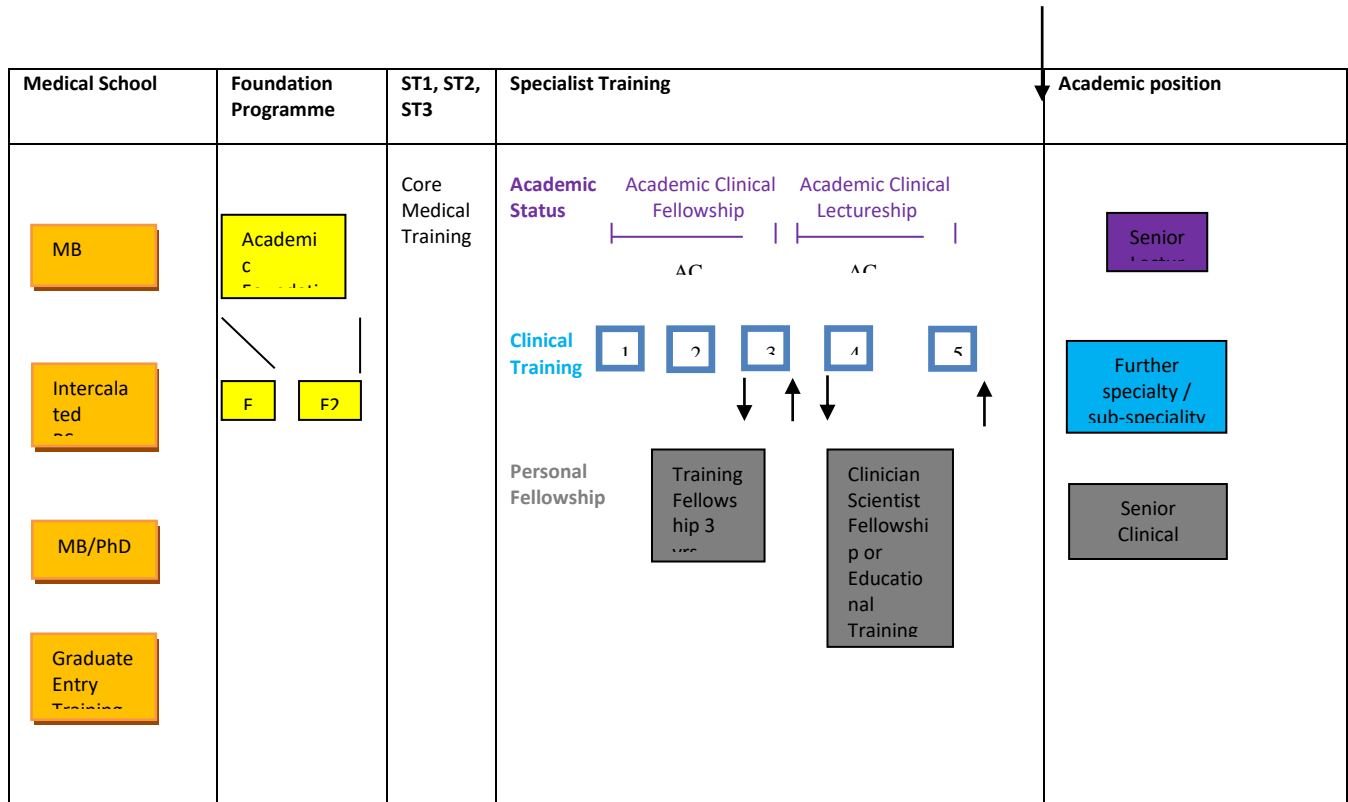
This job plan has been designed to introduce the successful candidate to major areas of clinical and academic Ophthalmology, but could be adapted to the interest of the candidate. The clinical components of the attachment will be tailored to reflect the needs of the project which you choose to undertake. There will be a communal computer for use in the unit's resident's room. Training in library and journal access will be provided in addition to the clinical training on the relevant hospital IT systems pertinent to ophthalmology practice.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.	Weekly academic meeting-review of progress/plans (<i>Project supervisor</i>) _____	Outpatient Clinic _____ 12.45pm Journal Club OPH	Outpatient Clinic	Project work	Project work: Literature review and writing
p.m.	Outpatient Clinic	Project work	Eye Casualty	Project Work/ F2 Training – NIMDTA/Trust	Postgraduate Class

ACADEMIC TRAINING PATH



CCT



The timings of personal fellowships are indicative – there should be flexibility according to individual career progression

Academic F2: Academic F2 training posts are for 4 months. This will be with two other rotations one of which will be a General Medicine attachment.

ACF/ACL: Trainees already appointed at ST3 or above are eligible to apply. Trainees who have undertaken postgraduate research (PhD or MD) should have already submitted their thesis, or be within three months of submission.