



**Division of Health Research
Faculty of Health and Medicine
Lancaster University**

**Research Associate
Ref: A2822**

**Grade 6
0.80 fte (29.25 hours), fixed-term post to 31st July 2021**

NIHR RfPB: Evaluating the quality and costs of supported living and residential care for adults with learning disabilities

The Division of Health Research (DHR) within Lancaster University's Faculty of Health and Medicine is seeking to appoint a 0.80 fte **Research Associate** for a 21-month post up to 31st July 2021.

The National Institute for Health Research has funded a multi-centre project, led by Lancaster University, to evaluate the quality and costs of residential care and supported living services for adults with learning disabilities in England. The Principal Investigator for the project is Professor Chris Hatton, based in Lancaster University, and the Co-Investigators are Anna Marriott (National Development Team for Inclusion, Dr Eva-Maria Bonin and Prof Martin Knapp (Care Policy and Evaluation Centre, LSE), and Sirraaj Nadaat (Changing Our Lives).

This research post is to support the work of the project, largely across sites in Northern England, in collaboration with other members of the research team elsewhere. It will largely involve assisting in negotiating access to sites, participating in the recruitment and consent process for research participants and collecting data (face-to-face, by phone and by survey) from participants in the study, family members, support workers and service managers. Data will be largely quantitative, with some additional qualitative work. It will also involve liaising with others in the research team to ensure efficient delivery of the study in accordance with research protocols. A second part-time research post for this project, based in South West England and employed by The National Development Team for Inclusion, starts slightly later and will be advertised shortly.

Lancaster University has an active grouping of academics and researchers engaged in research with people with learning disabilities. We engage in work relevant to health and social inequalities funded by research councils, the National Institute for Health Research, charities, and a wide range of other agencies.

Faculty of Health and Medicine

Established in 2008, the Faculty of Health and Medicine brings together a critical mass of expertise in teaching, research and outreach from three established departments and their associated centres: Biomedical and Life Sciences; Health Research and Lancaster Medical School.

The Faculty provides research and teaching in an innovative and distinctive blend of subjects across the health and medicine spectrum. We have established links with private, public and third sector healthcare organisations and work closely with institutions in the region and beyond. We have successfully built our reputation in several key areas such as ageing, end of life care, mental health, neurodegenerative disease, developmental biology and disability research, where our academic staff are at the forefront of their fields.

The Faculty offers a diverse range of both undergraduate and postgraduate taught and research programmes in biology, biomedicine, medicine and the social aspects of health. We deliver innovative blended learning courses and are working with healthcare organisations to provide customised Continuing Professional Development.

The Faculty's research environment was ranked joint first in the UK in the field, in the 2014 Research Evaluation Framework, with a 100% score on everything from investment in staff and facilities to research income and collaboration. Overall, 89% of the Faculty's research was judged world leading or internationally excellent, with 84% of research outputs being categorised as 3* and 4*. This places the Faculty among the elite universities in this field.

The Faculty also performed well in The Times Higher Education's research intensity league table which recognises the proportion of staff which are research active, finishing 3rd overall in the UK.

The Faculty is committed to pursuing world-class research. It brings together biomedical, medical, and social science researchers to tackle key challenges of the 21st Century within health and medicine.

Ranked third in our field in the 2014 Research Assessment Exercise on the 'intensity weighted' score, equal first in 'research environment' and in the top 10 for 'research power', the Faculty offers an ideal academic environment to develop your research career.

The Faculty achieved an Athena Swan Silver Award in 2014, which was renewed in 2018.

Division of Health Research

Established at Lancaster University in 1996, the Division of Health Research (DHR) is a multidisciplinary department that promotes health-related research and education across the University, the North West, nationally and internationally. DHR has a vibrant research community comprising of over 100 staff from a range of academic and applied backgrounds including: sociology, social policy, health geography, public health, psychology, health economics and nursing. We share an interest in the perspectives that the social sciences bring to an understanding of health and health inequalities, ageing, disability, illness, the delivery of

health and social care and interventions and actions to promote population health and health equity.

Members of the Division of Health Research come from a wide range of academic disciplines and professional backgrounds. We have a well-established reputation for conducting excellent academic research that is both interdisciplinary and translational.

Research groups in the Division work closely with our colleagues in the rest of the Faculty of Health and Medicine on the Faculty's core interdisciplinary [research themes](#): **Ageing; Mental Health; Health Information, Computation and Statistics; Infectious Disease Transmission and Biology and Social and Economic Inequality in Public Health.**

The Division has good relationships with NHS and social care partners, and the voluntary sector. We also host the regional and local centres for the [NIHR Research Design Service for the North West](#).

In the 2014 Research Assessment Exercise our research was ranked 3rd (intensity weighted score) and 1st for research environment nationally in UoA 3.

The educational programmes delivered by the Division range from postgraduate research degrees (PhDs), professional doctorates such as the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, and a suite of blended learning Masters and PhDs in ageing, dementia, palliative care, public health, organisational health and well-being, health economics and policy, and mental health. DHR has over 270 students registered on its full-time and part-time postgraduate programmes. We collaborate with Lancaster University Management School to deliver several courses and also contribute to teaching in Biomedical and Life Science, Medicine and Psychology.

Lancaster University

Lancaster is a top 10 UK university and top 10 in all three major national league tables. Its sixth-place ranking in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, as well as the winning of the coveted University of the Year award in 2018, cements its place as an elite UK university. Lancaster has a world-class reputation as a centre for excellence in teaching, scholarship and research and is highly ranked in international league tables such as the QS World Rankings.

The Lancaster University campus occupies a beautiful 360 acre parkland site at Bailrigg, just three miles from Lancaster City Centre. £450m has been invested into the estate since 2002, transforming the campus. Key developments include: new academic centres of excellence, student social facilities, improved teaching spaces, a new sports centre and a new Health Innovation Campus. Set near to the Lune Valley and the Forest of Bowland – areas of outstanding natural beauty – and on the edge of the Lake District, the campus is located a short distance from the vibrant and historic city of Lancaster, which has excellent schools. Lancaster is easily accessible by road (M6 Junction 33) and rail (West Coast mainline). It is approximately an hour to Manchester International Airport, and about 2.5 hours by train to London.