### Academic Foundation Programme Job Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Foundation Programme Title</th>
<th>General Practice Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employing Trust</strong></td>
<td>University Hospitals Southampton NHS Foundation Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Department</strong></td>
<td>Primary Care &amp; Population Science academic unit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Commencement Dates</strong></td>
<td>August, December, or April</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Professor Paul Little Email: <a href="mailto:p.little@soton.ac.uk">p.little@soton.ac.uk</a> Tel: 02380 241050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Supervisor</strong></td>
<td>To be assigned (according to training practice allocated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative Contact</strong></td>
<td>Lisa Sturdy Email: <a href="mailto:ls@soton.ac.uk">ls@soton.ac.uk</a> Tel: 02380 241050</td>
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#### Main Educational Opportunities
- Clinical General Practice in a research active practice, within easy reach of the PMC (Primary Medical Care) Group in Southampton.
- Carrying out a review of the literature in a chosen topic.
- Analysing research data if available.
- Presenting a research protocol to the AF2 group and academic supervisors
- Attending team meetings on current research projects in PMC, and getting involved in a range of projects if possible and appropriate.
- Attending Community Clinical Sciences Divisional research seminars.
- Contributing to undergraduate medical student teaching in General Practice, where possible and appropriate.

#### Formal Teaching Programmes
- Generic research skills training provided by the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility, at Southampton General Hospital (10 half day sessions). This course will enable AF2 trainees:
  - To gain an overview of the scope of clinical research
  - To learn about research methods and their appropriate application
  - To learn about sources of knowledge and knowledge management
  - To learn how to form research questions
  - To learn how to critically appraise research
  - To master elementary statistics and understand their application to research
  - To understand the sources of funding for research and
financial management of research
- To understand the ethics of research, consent and confidentiality
- To understand how research is regulated and governed.

Between sessions participants will be expected to develop their own research projects involving the:
- Generation of research questions
- Design of research protocols
- Financial aspects of research
- Navigation through ethics and the regulation of research.

**Academic competencies**
Formative assessment at the end of the course will test competency in:
- Literature reviewing and critical appraisal
- Research study design and planning
- Data interpretation and presentation of results

**Clinical competencies**
These will be selected from among those identified for the F2 year, which are achievable in General Practice.

### TIMETABLE (subject to change by agreement with Practice)

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<tr>
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.m.</td>
<td>Clinical work in General Practice</td>
<td>Research activities with PMC Group</td>
<td>Clinical work in General Practice</td>
<td>Clinical work in General Practice</td>
<td>Research activities with PMC Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>p.m.</td>
<td>Clinical work in General Practice</td>
<td>Research activities with PMC Group</td>
<td>Clinical work/ Foundation Programme Training</td>
<td>Clinical work/ Research Methods Course</td>
<td>Research activities with PMC Group</td>
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### OUT OF HOURS / ON CALL:

**Hours Worked**
Out of hours work is not funded for F2 placements in General Practice. To allow the trainee to maintain their income and experience however, arrangements could be made for the trainee to conduct out of hours work in a relevant acute discipline (this would best be aligned with one of the other two posts the trainee will do as part of their F2 year).
Further Information

The PMC group is within the Primary Care and Population Sciences (PCPS) unit, the aim of which is to improve the evidence base for the prevention and management of major public health problems (Director Professor Paul Roderick).

The group collaborates with Professor Yardley’s Health Psychology group within the School of Psychology and has had significant success in obtaining NHS R&D HTA programme and MRC project grant funding (PMC is the second highest earning group for MRC funding in the School of Medicine).

The PMC group has a strong track record in academic training and there would be ample opportunities for a successful AF2 trainee to go on to compete for an academic clinical fellowship (ACF) during vocational training.

The PMC group has been hosting academic Vocational Training Scheme extensions funded by the Wessex Deanery since the early 1990s. The academic GPRs have undertaken Masters level training, in Southampton or elsewhere when appropriate. Where possible, they have gone on to complete an MSc by dissertation.

Since 2008 the Primary Care Group (research led by Professor Paul Little) has been part of the National School of Primary Care Research (NSPCR). The Unit has attracted a wide range of funding, notably from NIHR (Programme Grants, Health Services Research, EME, Public Health Research, RfPB, Health Technology Assessment) as well as other research bodies e.g. MRC, Arthritis Research Council and Macmillan Trust.

The research within the PCPS Division is described in detail under the following Research Themes (and under personal pages of research staff):

- Primary Care
- Epidemiology and Cohorts
- Underpinning methodologies (medical statistics, qualitative methods, health economics)
- Health Inequalities
- Addiction
- Cardiovascular
- Nutrition and Metabolism

Postgraduate education

We have currently 13 PhD/MD students, and 17 post-docs. We have an active early researchers group (REACH) which meets regularly.

Further information on the PMC Group, including the particular research interests of the lead researchers, is available on the School of Medicine website: [http://www.southampton.ac.uk/medicine/academic_units/academic_units/primary_care_population.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/medicine/academic_units/academic_units/primary_care_population.page)