

Master of Clinical Research (MResClin)

This course will provide you with the skills and experience you need to develop your clinical academic career

WHO IS IT SUITABLE FOR?

This course provides a focused programme of practical and academic study to enable healthcare and health science professionals to acquire the necessary research skills for future careers in clinical research. This inter-professional programme is suitable for a range of professionals, including nurses, midwives pharmacists, allied health professionals, doctors, dentists and healthcare scientists.

COURSE CONTENT

The course builds on your existing research skills and introduces you to contemporary professional research practices employed within health care and health science environments. It aims to develop appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes in order to be an effective and productive researcher. Throughout the course you will learn about the processes and principles associated with good clinical practice research. You will also develop a range of advanced transferable and applied research skills which enable you to plan, lead and manage clinical research, promote and drive change in clinical practice, and actively engage with the wider research community. The course encourages you to interact with researchers working at the cutting edge of specific areas of applied clinical research. You will have opportunities to undertake a clinical research project and be supported by an academic supervisor as well as a clinical mentor from your own organisation to help facilitate data collection and negotiation through external and internal Trust research governance approval processes. There are also opportunities to gain placement experience of research roles and practice, service improvement and innovation.

ENTRY CRITERIA:

- An honours degree in a subject relevant to health or social care with a classification of at least 2:2. Alternative professional qualifications *may* be considered, particularly if there is evidence of recent postgraduate study at master's level 7.
- The equivalent of at least one year of clinical experience and employment within either the NHS or an equivalent health or social care organisation.
- Written support from your employer if you plan to work full time whilst studying.
- Nurses, Midwives, and Allied Health Professionals employed within the NHS are eligible to apply for NIHR Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowships. Funding for full-time and part-time Fellowships may cover the course fees and your employer will be reimbursed the cost of your basic salary for the duration of your award. See <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/our-research-community/NIHR-academy/nihr-training-programmes/nihr-hee-ica-programme/Pre-doctoral-Clinical-Academic-Fellowships> for further details. To check whether you are eligible to apply, see <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/documents/ICA/TCC-ICA-Eligible-Professions-and-Registration-Bodies.pdf>
- Please note funded places are not available to international applicants, professional disciplines not listed by HEE, and those practicing in the UK who have not been granted permanent residency status. There is, however, the option to apply for a self-funded place. Details of course fees can be found on the website: www.sgul.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught-degrees-postgraduate

MODULES

- **Compulsory modules:** Research methods (15 credits); Critical appraisal (15 credits); Applied Research (15 credits); Research project on a topic related to clinical practice (105 credits)
- **Optional modules:** Statistics (15 credits) *OR* Data Analysis (15 credits); Implementation and Improvement Science (15 credits) *OR* Negotiated Independent Learning (15 credits)

By the end of the course you will be able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a specific area of applied clinical research relevant to your own area of professional practice. You will also be able to:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of research theory, processes and principles associated with good clinical practice research
- Critically evaluate, select and apply appropriate research methods and data analysis techniques to investigate clinical research problems
- Synthesise information from a variety of sources and interpret data accurately
- Critically appraise published research, using appropriate techniques, and appreciate the significance of published research for professional practice, patient care, healthcare policy and future research
- Critically explore a range of implementation and improvement methodologies and strategies that support effective integration of research findings in practice
- Independently plan and manage an innovative piece of research in compliance with research ethics, legislative frameworks and governance procedures
- Effectively use a range of computer packages in order to successfully communicate acquired knowledge and the results of research, both written and orally to a range of audiences
- Effectively be able to network, support less experienced colleagues, prepare for competitive grant applications and doctoral fellowships
- Appreciate the broad role of the clinical academic researcher within the current context of health and social care
- Collaboratively engage with others in the process of investigative enquiry, and demonstrate awareness of resources and networks that can be accessed in order to support research focused activity and promote a research culture

ASSESSMENT: Research protocol, oral and poster presentations, examination, critiques, reflective reports, and dissertation

DURATION: Full-time over one year or part-time over two years

Part time attendance of two days a week: Normally Monday and Thursday in year 1. Much of year 2 is devoted to the completion of the research project module. The course starts in October 2019; full-time and part-time students are required to attend for the whole of the first week for the purpose of induction.

LOCATION: St George's, University of London: <http://www.sgul.ac.uk/about-us/how-to-get-here>

HOW TO APPLY: For an application form and details of how to complete the application form please visit the St George's website: <http://www.sgul.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught-degrees-postgraduate>