



# Introduction to NIHR IAT at Queen Mary

**Professor Márta Korbonits & Dr Will Alazawi** Co-leads NIHR IAT Programme

**Dr Vanessa Muirhead** – Academic Specialty Lead Dentistry

**Elaine Colaco** – Head of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education

**Virginia Govoni** – Barts Charity Funding Manager

**Nancy Schumann** – Administrator NIHR IAT Programme

## Aims of the session

Márta

- Meet each other - virtually
- Introduction to NIHR IAT at QMUL, covering:
  - ✦ IAT Pathway and the purpose of the scheme
  - ✦ Courses, Facilities
  - ✦ Choice of a Supervisor and Research Planning
  - ✦ Bursaries
  - ✦ ARCP and Academic Review
- Opportunity to ask questions

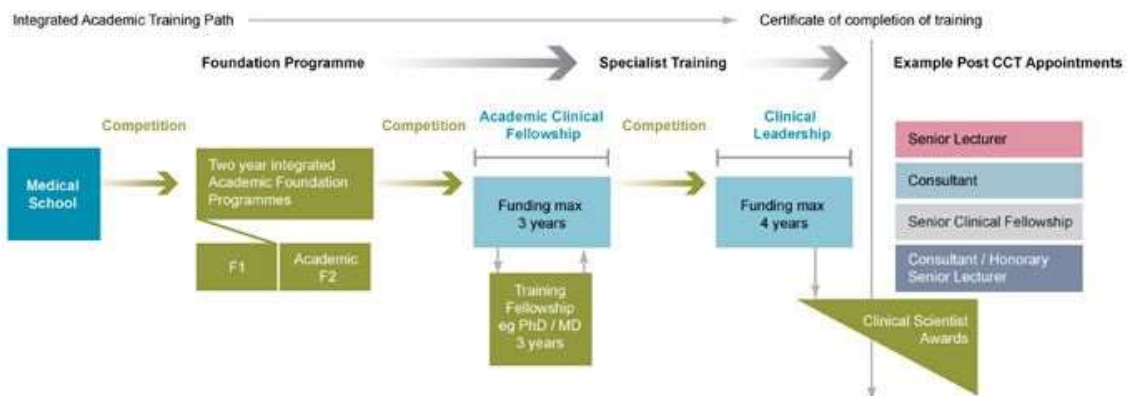
## NIHR Integrated Academic Training

Will

- A programme to support doctors to pursue an academic clinical career
  - ↳ a route to become a clinical academic
- The pathway allows entry at several levels, depending on the speciality
- Acquisition of research skills and competence in addition to clinical competences
- Time taken to complete the training varies with speciality/competence

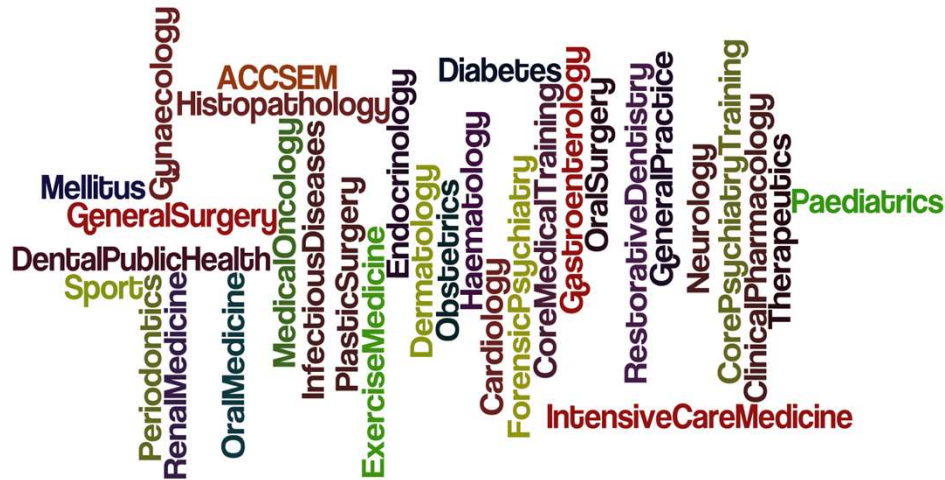
## NIHR Integrated Academic Training Pathway MBBS

Will



## IAT Specialities at QMUL

Will



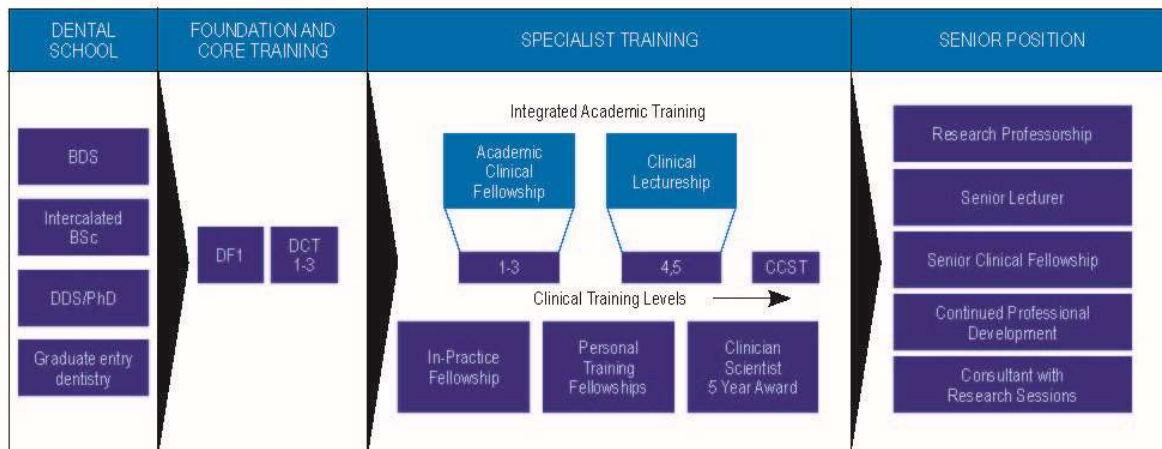
## Clinical academic training in the Institute of Dentistry (IoD)

Vanessa

- Nine ACFs and CLs in the IoD in Oral Surgery, Paediatric Dentistry, Special Care Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Periodontics and Dental Public Health
- Strengths of clinical academic training at the IoD:
  - Experienced academic and educational supervisors and large patient base to support clinical training
  - Opportunities to carrying out research embedded in the four research centres
- Support available:
  - New academic monitoring system to support your doctoral fellowship preparation
  - Leadership development for CLs
  - Wider support from an Academic Training Oversight Panel (ATOP)
  - Dedicated QMPlus website: <https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=11054>

# NIHR Integrated Academic Training Pathway Dentistry

Vanessa



Integrated Academic Training Pathway (Dentistry)

## ACF: Academic Clinical Fellow

Will

- Gain early pre-doctoral research experience
- Conduct a short term project in an academic department at QMUL (25% of your full time over 3 years)
  - How to choose a supervisor
- Train in research methodologies
  - PG certificate in clinical research
- Develop a proposal for submission to an external funding body for a research training fellowship to undertake a PhD
  - Funding bodies, useful links

## ACF: Academic Clinical Fellow

Will

- An ACF is a clinical trainee!
  - Your rotation will be identical to that of your clinical peers
- Identify your speciality academic training lead
  - First point of contact for organisational issues
  - Mentoring
- Identify an academic supervisor
  - Small specialities/Large specialities
- Plan your research block (please tell us dates when confirmed)

## Identify an academic supervisor

Will

- What are you interested in?
- What are the strengths of your speciality at QMUL
- Senior academic/younger academic?
- What type of student are you?
  - Need feedback and guidance
  - Prefer to work on your own

## Identify an academic supervisor

Will

- Make contact
- Take time to do some research into the area of interest and into the profile and track record of the potential supervisor!
- Talk to people in their research group
- It must be somebody you get on well with
- Take your time to reach a decision, the importance to find the right supervisor cannot be emphasised enough!

## Identify an academic supervisor

Will

- Start working with the potential supervisor on a small project - audit, case report, review
  - Do you like working with this person?
  - Do you like their research group?
  - Do they like working with you?
  - Can you finish things?

## Plan your research block

Will

- 9 months of research over a period of 3 years
- Timing must be agreed with clinical and academic supervisor
  - Give enough notice
- One continuous block versus more block periods
- *When your academic block dates are confirmed drop us an email on [iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk)*

## Consumables funding

Will

- Make sure your supervisor is aware that your consumables costs will not be covered
- Be proactive to secure funding for consumables
- External funding
- Track record of successful application for funding is important for your CV
- Barts Charity – Open to ACFs for up to [£7,000 for consumables](#)

**Barts Charity Mission:**

“We fund extraordinary healthcare for our community in East London and far beyond.”

£30 million per annum, seeking a large impact

**Funding Partners:**

Barts Health NHS Trust

Barts & The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

City University, School of Health Sciences

**Various schemes in focus areas:**

[Improving Healthcare Delivery](#)

[Health and Medical Research](#)

**ACFs Support Grant**

- up to £7,000 for consumables only. The scheme does not cover salary, travel or training costs.
- **Deadline:** 5pm Friday 30 October 2020
- Applicants can expect to receive the outcome in 4 weeks after the submission date.
- Contact [virginia.govoni@bartscharity.org.uk](mailto:virginia.govoni@bartscharity.org.uk) for further information

## Travel Bursary

Nancy

**NIHR TCC Bursary**

There is £1,000 available each financial year (1 August - 31 July) to help support attendance to conferences and meetings relevant to your research area

Application form – complete with supervisor & return to Nancy Schumann [iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk) for approval

Money is transferred to an EDA (Extra Departmental Activity) account of your supervisor and administered by your supervisor's centre/department



## Structured research training

Márta

- at QMUL – research methodologies
- External – your choice

## Programme in Clinical Research at QMUL

Márta

To be discussed and agreed with your supervisor

- Provides a credit-bearing training opportunity for ACFs
- Opportunity to develop academic research skills
- Designed for clinical trainees in all specialities
- Available for September and January start

- Postgraduate Certificate

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/coursefinder/courses/clinical-research-pgcert/>

- Postgraduate Diploma

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/coursefinder/courses/clinical-research-pgdip/>

- Master of Research

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/coursefinder/courses/clinical-research-mres/>

# Programme in Clinical Research at QMUL

Márta

## PGCert in Clinical Research

### Part 1 (4 x 15-credit modules)

- generic skills
- ethics and regulation
- data management and statistics
- clinical study design
- practical aspects of clinical studies and
- communication and public engagement

## PGDip in Clinical Research

### Part 1

+

1 module of **Part 2**

### Part 2

60-credit modules

- literature research
- practical project
- writing a grant proposal.

## MRes in Clinical Research

### Part 1

+

2 modules of **Part 2**

Contact: Nina Ravic, [n.ravic@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:n.ravic@qmul.ac.uk)

## Outside training programs - also acceptable

Márta

- Bioinformatics
- Molecular biology training
- Education for Clinical Contexts
- Genomic Medicine
- Clinical Bioinformatics
- Epidemiology
- Clinical Education
- Clinical Trials
- Medical Oncology
- Medical Statistics

There will be a weekly email from Nancy with training and funding opportunities

## Apply for a research training fellowship to undertake a PhD

Márta

- Start planning the application **10-12 months prior** to the deadline
- Preliminary data directly related to the project you propose to carry out during the fellowship are essential
- Second supervisor
- Collaborators
- Make sure your CV is up to scratch
  - Presentations at conferences
  - Published papers, preferably first author paper (*separate abstracts and papers clearly*)
  - Any evidence of leadership potential in your career

## Useful Links – Funding and Fellowships - ACF

Márta

- MRC: <https://mrc.ukri.org/skills-careers/Fellowships/>
- NIHR: <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/researchers/funding-opportunities/?> (funding type: career development)
- BHF: <http://www.bhf.org.uk/research/research-grants/what-we-fund/clinical-research-training-fel.aspx>
- Cancer UK: <http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/funding/find-grant/all-funding-schemes/career-development-fellowship/>
- Wellcome Trust: <https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/scheme-finder>
- Versus Arthritis: <https://www.versusarthritis.org/research/research-funding-and-policy/fellowships-and-career-support/types-of-fellowship/>
- Diabetes UK: <https://www.diabetes.org.uk/research/for-researchers/apply-for-a-grant>
- The George Alberti CRTF: <https://www.diabetes.org.uk/research/for-researchers/apply-for-a-grant/sir-george-alberti-research-training-fellowship>
- Brain Research UK: <https://www.brainresearchuk.org.uk/news/2019-phd-studentship-awards-announced>
- Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital – internal advert

## NIHR Assessment of academic progression - ResearchFish

Márta

<https://www.researchfish.com/>

Record of research outputs during the 3 years of ACF and the following 5 years

### Key importance for outcome and compulsory

Please send us a copy of your portfolio as entered in the ResearchFish website!

## Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

Will

- Competence based speciality training (Gold Guide)
  - Assessment
  - Annual review
- Personal Development Plan
- Academic Progress Report
- CCT/CCST date!

## Academic Review pre-ARCP

Will

- An annual assessment of progress must be undertaken
- Should take place at least a month prior to ARCP panel

Present at the Academic Review:

- The trainee and education supervisor
- Academic supervisor
- And other members of the academic unit (as appropriate)

## Balancing Academic & Clinical Training – Trust Perspective

Elaine

### Key Points to Consider:

- Organising Research Blocks
- Contracts & HR Matters
- Study Leave
- On-call
- ePortfolio & ARCP
- Less than Full Time Training (LTFT)

## Organising research blocks

Elaine

Should make contact with the Clinical Lead/Training Programme Director and Academic Training Lead for the specialty to discuss and agree how the research block will be organised.

For ACFs, research blocks are usually organised in 3 month or 3+3 month back-to-back concurrent periods, but this will depend on the specialty.

For CLs the structure of research blocks can be and may be split weekly, monthly or in six-month or one-year blocks.

Each specialty or division will have a slightly different model and approach depending on local circumstances, and the research time must be planned in full agreement with Clinical and Academic Leads.

## Contracts and HR matters

Elaine

ACFs will have a contract with a NHS Trust and an honorary contract with Queen Mary University London. Subject to NHS T&C 2016 Junior Doctor Contract although updates imminent.

CLs will have a contract with Queen Mary University London and an honorary contract with a NHS Trust.

Clinical academic trainees will be required to complete routine HR induction formalities (such as collection of ID & Smart cards and completion of induction training activities including all statutory and mandatory training).

## Study leave

Elaine

Study leave funding allows trainees to enhance their clinical education and training in areas not easily acquired in the clinical setting or locally - and is used to support the development of clinical knowledge and understanding. Check your requirements through the HEE portal.

This funding is available to clinical academic trainees over and above the bursaries and funding provided specifically to support academic training, in exactly the same way as for non-academic clinical trainees.

Academic Trainees must be in a recognised training post to be eligible for study leave. Applications are usually managed by the **Medical Education Centre in the Trust**.

## On-call

Elaine

Academic blocks will not usually include on-call commitments, so trainees will only be paid at the basic salary rate for the duration of their academic time.

This may, however, vary by clinical specialty and trainees should talk to their Clinical Training Programme Director or department training lead.

ACFs/CLs may wish to supplement their salaries during academic training by arranging to undertake ad hoc shifts that fit easily around their academic blocks and is usually arranged via the department or Trust Bank process.

## e-Portfolio & ARCP

Elaine

New ACFs will need to ensure that their College training e-portfolio is updated to include the academic element of their ACF programme.

Need to ensure that the ePortfolio is kept up to date to ensure that all assessments and competencies are up to date as these form the basis for your Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP). Academic and Clinical elements have a separate ARCP and outcomes may determine your ability to progress. Talk to your clinical lead if you have any issues that are affecting your ability to progress.

ARCPs are managed by Health Education England and are led by the Training Programme Directors with input from both academic and clinical education supervisors.

## Less Than Full Time (LTFT) Training

Elaine

This must be agreed at a local level before starting Less Than Full Time (LTFT) working. Trusts need to be given 16 weeks notice although may be agreed sooner in exceptional circumstances.

LTFT ACFs can be extended up to a maximum of 5 years (up to a maximum of 6 years for GPs), with a stipulation that the academic component remains at 25% of Whole Time Equivalent. Trainees remain at LTFT level until HEE notified that this needs to change.

Please contact your academic and clinical leads as well as HEE to discuss this in the first instance. The Trust HR department do not manage this process.



## Academic Review pre-ARCP

Will

- An annual assessment of progress must be undertaken
- Should take place at least a month prior to ARCP panel

Present at the Academic Review:

- The trainee and education supervisor
- Academic supervisor
- And other members of the academic unit (as appropriate)

## Useful Links – Integrated Academic Training

Will

- National Institute of Health Research (NIHR)  
<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/our-research-community/NIHR-academy/nihr-training-programmes/nihr-hee-ica-programme/>
- London Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education  
<https://www.lpmde.ac.uk/training-programme/training-matters/academic-training>
- The Academy of Medical Sciences (see 'publications' section for guidelines for monitoring clinical academic training and progress)  
<https://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/>
- GMC – The Gold Guide – Postgraduate Specialist Training in the UK  
<http://www.gmc-uk.org/>  
<https://www.lpmde.ac.uk/training-programme/training-matters/files/gold-guide-7th-edition>
- Dental Gold guide:  
<https://www.copdend.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Dental-Gold-Guide-June-2018.pdf>

## What to let us know....

Nancy

Please email Nancy with the following details (as and when available):

- Academic block times
- Bursary or research education fund requests
- Statutory leave (such as parental leave)
- Copy of annual ResearchFish submission
- Any prizes / awards / fellowships / recognitions you received
- For fellowships please let us know:
  - Type of fellowship
  - Funder
  - Start date
  - Where you're off to if not staying at Queen Mary
- *And, of course, don't hesitate to ask if anything ever doesn't make sense!*

## Queen Mary Contact Information

Nancy

NIHR IAT Programme Administrator – Nancy Schumann  
 Email: [iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:iatadmin@qmul.ac.uk)

NIHR IAT Programme Academic Co-Leads

- Professor Marta Korbonits
  - email: [m.korbonits@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:m.korbonits@qmul.ac.uk)
- Dr Will Alazawi
  - Email: [w.alazawi@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:w.alazawi@qmul.ac.uk)

Nina Ravic  
 Clinical Research MRes/PGDip/PGCert – Programme Manager  
 Email: [n.ravic@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:n.ravic@qmul.ac.uk)

QMPlus page: <https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=13534>

## Questions?



### Questions to

- Academic questions – **Vanessa, Márta and Will**
- NHS liaison questions – **Elaine**
- Barts Charity questions – **Virginia**
- Practical, administrative or any difficult questions – **Nancy**

Thank you