**Funding Source: Wellcome Trust grant**

**Proposed start date: 1 October 2022**

**Closing date for applications: 8 April 2022**

**Eligibility:** UK applicants only

**Department/School:** Health Sciences

**Supervisors:** Dr Rachael Evans ([re66@le.ac.uk](mailto:re66@le.ac.uk)), Prof Sally Singh ([ss1119@le.ac.uk](mailto:ss1119@le.ac.uk)), Prof Rod Taylor ([Rod.Taylor@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Rod.Taylor@glasgow.ac.uk) )

**Project Title:** The impact of Long Covid in the multi-morbid individual – integration into a multi-morbid exercise based rehabilitation programme

**Project Description:**

The impact of Sars-CoV-2 has been particularly prevalent in people who are more deprived, and COVID-19 has more severe impact on people who have other conditions and illnesses . Those with multiple long-term conditions are likely to have worse outcome. Understanding these consequences of COVID in those with pre-existing multimorbidity has important implications for patients, their families, clinicians, and healthcare policy makers. This PhD will undertake a programme of mixed methods research to understand the impact of LC on people with multimorbidity in terms of their mental/physical health, health care utilisation, and rehabilitation needs. The fellow will conduct a systematic review, analyse a large prospective cohort data set and a clinical rehabilitation dataset to understand the impact of multimorbidity on health outcomes and the impact of an exercise based rehabilitation programme. The fellow will be hosted within the within the Respiratory BRC, supported by fellow AHPs.

The post will be hosted at the Glenfield site, and the successful candidate will be working with an established team of healthcare professionals, with a strong track record in rehabilitation research.

**References:**

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2. Williamson EJ, Walker AJ, Bhaskaran K, Bacon S, Bates C, Morton CE, Curtis HJ, Mehrkar A, Evans D, Inglesby P, Cockburn J, McDonald HI, MacKenna B, Tomlinson L, Douglas IJ, Rentsch CT, Mathur R, Wong AYS, Grieve R, Harrison D, Forbes H, Schultze A, Croker R, Parry J, Hester F, Harper S, Perera R, Evans SJW, Smeeth L, Goldacre B. Factors associated with COVID-19-related death using OpenSAFELY. Nature. 2020;584:430-436.
3. McQueenie R, Foster HME, Jani BD, Katikireddi SV, Sattar N, Pell JP, Ho FK, Niedzwiedz CL, Hastie CE, Anderson J, Mark PB, Sullivan M, O'Donnell CA, Mair FS, Nicholl BI. Multimorbidity, polypharmacy, and COVID-19 infection within the UK Biobank cohort. PLoS One. 2020;15:e0238091.
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5. NICE. COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing the long-term effects of COVID-19 NICE guideline [NG188] Published: 18 December 2020 Overview | COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing the long-term effects of COVID-19. <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng188>
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8. Daynes E, Gerlis C, Chaplin E, Gardiner N, Singh SJ. Early experiences of rehabilitation for individuals post-COVID to improve fatigue, breathlessness exercise capacity and cognition – A cohort study. *Chronic Respiratory Disease*. January 2021.
9. Martijn A. Spruit, Anne E. Holland, Sally J. Singh, Thomy Tonia, Kevin C. Wilson, Thierry Troosters. COVID-19: interim guidance on rehabilitation in the hospital and post-hospital phase from a European Respiratory Society- and American Thoracic Society-coordinated international task force. European Respiratory Journal Dec 2020, 56 (6) 2002197; DOI: 10.1183/13993003.02197-2020
10. Gray A, Rivero-Arias O, Clarke P. Estimating the association between SF-12 responses and EQ-5D utility values by response mapping. Medical Decision Making 2006;26:18-29.

**Funding details:**

*Students on this programme will be supported by a generous funding package. This will include:*

* *Postgraduate research fee waiver at standard College of Life Sciences UK rates for three years of the PhD*
* *Wellcome Trust stipend covering your salary for all three years of the PhD*
* *Research grant for training, research and travel costs*

**Entry requirements:**

Applicants are required to hold/or expect to obtain a UK Bachelor Degree 2:1 or better in a relevant subject.

The University of Leicester [English language](https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/entry-reqs/eng-lang-reqs) requirements apply where applicable.

This programme is open to:

* allied health professionals
* nurses
* midwives
* junior doctors
* general practitioners

Fellows recruited to the programme must be practicing healthcare professionals and be registered with a national professional regulatory body (e.g. the General Medical Council, Health and Care Professions Council) in the UK/Republic of Ireland.

Medical graduates must be registered on a UK/Republic of Ireland specialist training programme or must be a registered GP.

All fellows must have completed their undergraduate degree and be registered with the relevant professional body.

**Application advice:**

For full application advice and the link to our online application please go do: <https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/funded-opportunities/leicestershire-healthcare-inequalities-improvement-dtp>

With your application, please include:

* CV
* Personal statement explaining your interest in the project, your experience and why we should consider you
* Degree Certificates and Transcripts of study already completed and if possible transcript to date of study currently being undertaken
* Evidence of English language proficiency if applicable
* In the reference section please enter the contact details of your two academic referees in the boxes provided or upload letters of reference if already available.

In the funding section please specify that you wish to be considered for **Wellcome Trust LHII DTP**

In the proposal section please provide the name of at least one or at most two of the projects you are interested in (please indicate title and name of supervisor).

Upload the Widening Participation form (found on the above link) to the proposal section

**Project / Funding Enquiries to :** [**lhiip@leicester.ac.uk**](mailto:lhiip@leicester.ac.uk)

**Application enquiries to** [**pgradmissions@le.ac.uk**](mailto:pgradmissions@le.ac.uk)

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