**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 Neil Greening (neil.greening@leicester.ac.uk), Prof Andrea Cooper (amc72@leicester.ac.uk), Dr Pranab Haldar (ph62@leicester.ac.uk)

**Project Title:** The effects of pulmonary tuberculosis and response to therapy on skeletal muscle dysfunction and recovery

**Project Description:**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a global epidemic that is associated with considerable morbidity attributable to the systemic effects of infection. Weight loss, fatigue and muscle wasting are historically recognised in the terms ‘Consumption’ and ‘the white plague’. Indeed weight is still used as the major measure of clinical response to anti tuberculous treatment (ATT).

This PhD proposal will understand how muscle changes in patients with TB, using previously collected CT scans in a cohort of patients who have been treated with TB. The successful candidate will also undertake a clinically-focused project to understand the changes in muscle and fat and how it predicts response to treatment for TB. There is the opportunity for part of this study to be undertaken abroad in a low-income country where TB is highly prevalent. In addition to the clinical measures will be linked to blood biomarkers of disease, and will include an introduction to some laboratory measures to further explore this.

It is anticipated the successful applicant will be based in the Centre for Exercise and Rehabilitation Science at the Glenfield campus, and link with an established group of allied healthcare professions with an international reputation in muscle dysfunction, exercise and rehabilitation.

**References:**

**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**

**Application enquiries to** **pgradmissions@le.ac.uk**

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