**University of Leicester**

**Future 50 PhD Scholarship**

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| **Project Reference** | HS Crease |

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| **Additional Supervisor** | Professor Nandini Chakraborty, Department of Health Sciences; NHS Leicester Partnership Trust |

**Section 2 – *Project Information***

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| **Project Title** | Team Ethos in Mental Heath Care: a qualitative study of “what good looks like” for mental health team culture in NHS mental health services | |
| **Project Highlights:** | 1. | Criticality of topic: NHS priority for research improving mental health services, patient centred-care and effective integrated care. |
| 2. | Influencing local clinical and ultimately national practice: this project leverages a strong local partnership between the University of Leicester and the Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, and will enable the student to build relationships and co-produce solutions with potential to shape and change practice and policy in mental health care nationally. |
| 3. | Training environment, networking and supervision: joining the renowned SAPPHIRE research group and LPT, building both academic and clinical networks and benefiting from diverse supervision expertise both clinical and methodological/theoretical, mix of ECR and established supervisors. |
| **Project Summary** | | |
| Integrated care, where mental health care is delivered by a team of different primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare providers, often results in better outcomes for patients, and is key in the NHS’s mental health programmes. The internal culture of the multidisciplinary teams in mental health integrated care has a great effect on care quality and safety, patient engagement, and staff retention.  However, there is no model of what “good” team culture or ethos looks like in mental health team care – this studentship will focus on gathering evidence from the perspective both of mental health team staff themselves and of service users and their carers, in different mental health care service models, in order to develop evidence-based approaches to improve care environments and outcomes  This doctoral studentship will undertake a rigorous qualitative analysis of team culture in different mental health services and develop a “Gold Standards” model for mental health team culture. The studentship will utilise multiple qualitative research methods to generate insights from multiple groups of mental health service stakeholders into the culture of the care experience in different styles of service. The learnings generated from this work could be used to inform quality improvement of existing mental health services, and shape the roll-out of new and expanded integrated care services to meet new demands across the NHS. It could also develop best practice guidance for care team structure and function in mental health integrated care that may have international application.  The overall aim for the studentship is: to advance understanding on how the culture within multidisciplinary teams affects care quality in different styles of mental health services, from both a staff and service user perspective.  The objectives for this studentship are:  1. To gather evidence from mental health care staff and service users on existing team culture within integrated care multidisciplinary teams and effect on satisfaction, safety and engagement.  2. To gather observational data on team culture within the practices of mental health multidisciplinary teams and its effect on satisfaction, safety and engagement.  3. To develop (with staff and service users) a “Gold Standards” model for team culture in mental health integrated care services, to best support safety, satisfaction and engagement for both staff, patients and carers. | | |