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| Project Reference | T1/68 |
| Project Title | **Exploring the contribution of complex genomic variation to fibrosis risk** |
| Theme(s) | Theme 1: Genomics for drug development & pharmacogenetics |
| Supervisors | **Prof Louise Wain (University of Leicester)** [**louisewain@le.ac.uk**](mailto:louisewain@le.ac.uk)  Dr Richard Allen (University of Leicester)  Dr Katherine Fawcett (University of Leicester) |
| Department | Population Health Sciences |
| Project Summary | Fibrosis (scarring) is a pathological feature of many different diseases and can affect most organs of the body. Fibrosis is a major cause of mortality accounting for around a third of deaths worldwide. Using genetic studies to understand the biological processes that drive fibrosis could lead to discovery of new drug targets for fibrosis across a wide range of diseases. This project will delve into the role of complex genomic variation (duplications, deletion, insertions) in predisposing individuals to fibrosis within, and across, disease areas. You will apply cutting-edge statistical approaches to whole genome and exome sequencing data to characterise and quantify the contribution of complex variation to fibrosis risk. You will join a multi-disciplinary consortium of researchers providing broad exposure to emerging trends in this fast-moving field, and developing collaborations to translate your findings into functional insight that could bring benefit to patients affected by fibrosis. |