**Funding Source: Self-funded / own sponsor**

**Proposed start date: to be confirmed/negotiable**

**Closing date for applications: open until filled**

**Eligibility: UK/International**

***Tuition fee for international students: £29,300 per annum (2024/5 entry)***

***Standard UK PhD tuition fees for Home students:*** *full-time £4,786, part-time £2,393 (2024/5 rates). Please note that depending on your area of research there may be additional costs to allow for such as attendance at conferences, travel, training and consumables etc.*

**Department/School: Healthcare**

**Supervisors: Professor Debi Bhattacharya,** **db487@le.ac.uk**

**Project Title: Development and evaluation of a theory and evidence-based model for normalising Self-Administration of Medicines (SAM) in hospital**

**Application link:**

[**https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/research-subjects/school-of-healthcare**](https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/research-subjects/school-of-healthcare)

**Project Description:**

Most people at home can safely take their medicines themselves, but in hospital this responsibility is usually taken away from them. Patients’ medicines are taken off them and nurses give them their medicines during their hospital stay. Taking responsibility away from patients increases nurse workload which is linked to increased medication errors1. These include patients being given somebody else’s medicine, medicines being given late or at the wrong dose. Patients don’t like losing control of taking their medicines and because changes are often made to their medicines whilst they are in hospital, they are then less able to take them correctly when they go home2.

All hospitals have policies to let patients take their medicines themselves if they want but this is rarely offered. Patients tell us that this is unacceptable.

**Aim**

The PhD aims to design a model to support hospital staff to routinely offer patients the option to take their medicines themselves.

**Methods**

**Year 1:** To undertake a systematic review establishing the barriers and enablers to patients accepting SAM if offered.

**Year 2:** To explore the barriers and enabler to healthcare professionals in hospital offering SAM

**Year 3:** To design an implementation intervention to support healthcare professionals to implement SAM in a manner acceptable to patients.

***References:***

*1. Knox MK, Mehta PD, Dorsey LE, Yang C, Petersen LA. A Novel Use of Bar Code Medication Administration Data to Assess Nurse Staffing and Workload. Appl Clin Inform. 2023 Jan;14(01):076–90.*

*2. Richardson SJ, Brooks HL, Bramley G, Coleman JJ. Evaluating the effectiveness of self-administration of medication (SAM) schemes in the hospital setting: a systematic review of the literature. PLoS One. 2014;9(12):e113912.*

**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 requirements apply where applicable: <https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/entry-reqs/eng-lang-reqs/ielts-70>

**Application advice:**

To apply please refer to: <https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/research-subjects/school-of-healthcare>

With your application, please include:

* CV
* Personal statement explaining your interest in the project, your experience, why we should consider you in addition to confirmation of how you will pay your fees.
* 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 proposal section please provide the name of the supervisors and project title (a proposal is not required)*

Application and project queries to soh-pgr@le.ac.uk