

Programme 11 – Clinical Genetics – based at Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals

Reference: 2122/KCL/11

Individual Placement Descriptor (IPD) for the four month academic placement

Separate IPDs for clinical placements are available on foundation school websites

<p>Type of programme</p> <p>The clinical genetics academic placement programme is research led. The placement is designed to provide training and insight into either discovery, translational or clinical projects around genetic diseases and disorders.</p>	
<p>Employing trust:</p> <p>Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust</p>	<p>Academic placement based at:</p> <p>Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals</p>
<p>Brief outline of department</p> <p>The department of Medical & Molecular Genetics, in the faculty of Life Sciences and Medicine, is a vibrant and ambitious department with an excellent reputation in research, teaching and clinical genetics with research expertise around understanding the genetic basis of human disease in the areas of rare genetic disease, common complex disorders, statistical genetics, epigenetics, cancer genetics, immune genetics, population genetics and genomics and bioinformatics. There are close research links to (1) the St John's Institute of Dermatology, a world-leading centre for the study, teaching and treatment of severe skin diseases on the adjacent floor, which has a strong portfolio in translational research across cancer, inflammation and genetic skin diseases with a focus on biomarker discovery and experimental medicine, built upon excellent clinical resources; (2) The King’s Centre for Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine which has state of the art research facilities, enabling cutting edge studies of cellular interactions between skin cells critical for developing effective therapies in the clinic; and (3) The Twin Research Unit which is the home of TwinsUK, one of the most comprehensively genotyped and phenotyped cohorts in the world and conducts a wide variety of common complex traits research projects.</p> <p>For further information see our website: https://www.kcl.ac.uk/bmb/our-departments/department-of-medical-molecular-genetics</p>	
<p>Structure of academic project/what expected</p> <p>The academic project is developed along with the academic supervisor and their team of researchers. This project can take several forms depending on the interests of the candidate and the availability of supervisors. With the breadth of research interests currently available, this can take the form of anything from a discovery science experimental study alongside bench researchers or a bioinformatics-based ‘big’ data analysis project which is increasingly relevant to personalised medicine efforts, such as using 100,000 genomes project data, to a more clinical centred project with translational or clinical research goals. This flexibility is afforded by the breadth of our faculty but the choice should be driven by the motivation and interests of the individual candidate.</p>	

Clinical commitments during academic placement

The academic F2 will be required to be on an out of hours rota at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust which comprises of 1 in 4 weekend twilight shifts and will not affect the academic weekday timetable. The F2 is expected to attend the monthly F2 teaching and encouraged to engage with other relevant clinical educational events where applicable.

Trainees are welcome to and encouraged to engage with the clinical geneticists and indeed may involve themselves in projects which have a clear clinical facet to them during their placement.

Departmental academic teaching programme (if applicable)

The departments have a range of seminar programmes and journal clubs.

Academic Lead

Professor Tim Hubbard
Department of Medical & Molecular Genetics
tim.hubbard@kcl.ac.uk