

**CENTRE FOR  
DOCTORAL STUDIES  
& HEALTH SCIENCES  
DOCTORAL TRAINING  
CENTRE**

**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**



# Health Professional Researchers

Training and career  
development support

# Introduction

King's College London hosts a thriving community of **research-active Health Professionals**, many of whom are engaged in a formal period of research training, such as a PhD, DClinPsy, MD(Res), MRes, or a post-doctoral research position.

This brochure outlines information, resources, and events for this community, provided via the **Health Sciences Doctoral Training Centre (HSDTC)** and other King's departments and partners.

Find out more on our HSDTC web page:

**[kcl.ac.uk/study/doctoral-studies/health-sciences-doctoral-training-centre/health-professional-researchers](https://kcl.ac.uk/study/doctoral-studies/health-sciences-doctoral-training-centre/health-professional-researchers)**

**Health Professional Researchers** are also sometimes known as *Clinical Academic Researchers*, and we will occasionally make use of this and related terms to refer to pre-doctoral, doctoral, and post-doctoral researchers on a clinical academic pathway at King's.

# Who is this brochure for?

We define Health Professional Researchers at King's as medical doctors, dentists, nurses, clinical psychologists, psychiatrists, and members of the **14 allied health professions as outlined on this NHS England webpage**, who are also currently engaged in a period of research training.

# How will we stay in touch with you?

All doctoral research students in the Health Faculties at King's enrolled on a PhD, DClinPsy, MD(Res), MRes, or other PGR degree, automatically receive monthly email updates from the HSDTC.

However, if you are a pre- or post-doctoral research-active Health Professional, for example an NIHR **Academic Clinical Fellow** (ACF or PCAF), **Academic Clinical Lecturer** (ACL), Clinical Research Fellow, or similar, at King's, and would like to be added to our mailing lists, please **email us**. Many of the resources and events we reference here are open to Health Professional Researchers at all these stages.

You can also receive regular updates and find out more by **following us on Twitter**.

## Masterclasses, Training, and other Events

We offer training sessions and events aimed specifically at Health Professional Researchers, which consider your specific career paths and challenges. **Visit our website** for more information and to book onto sessions.

- **Health Professional Researchers: Managing Dual Careers Webinars (HSDTC112)**

This series of three webinars will explore the challenges faced by Health Professional Researchers, and provide approaches to overcome these. A panel of more senior Health Professional Researchers will talk through their own career and techniques they've found helpful in their success.

- **Exploring the Clinical Academic Pathway (HSDTC78)**

Networking and information event for early-stage Clinical Academic Researchers at King's.

- **Focus on Funding**

A programme of workshops exploring funding opportunities for Health Professional Researchers, including the process for applying for fellowships; what panels are looking for; and small group coaching for pitching your research, for example to fellowship panels.

- **The Health Professional Researcher Forum**

A regular informal meeting to connect Health Professional Researchers, featuring talks from more senior researchers, bitesize training sessions, and peer networking.

The HSDTC offers **an extensive programme of training, support, and events to all PGR students in the Health Faculties at King's College London**. This includes training on:

1. Research Methods and Skills
2. Communication & Research Impact
3. Careers and Employability
4. Doctoral Essentials

Doctoral research students at King's can also access a large programme of interactive and on-demand training from the **Centre for Doctoral Studies**.

“*Speaking to people who have blazed the trail before you is so helpful.*

*Their experiences are invaluable and you realise that everyone follows varied pathways through clinical academic research.”*

**Sheila, MRC Clinical Research Training Fellow, Dermatology**



## Training Centres & Funding Programmes

### INTEGRATED ACADEMIC TRAINING (IAT)

The King's College London NIHR-funded **Integrated Academic Training** (IAT) programme allows medical and dental trainees to undertake academic and clinical training concurrently.

The IAT programme sits within the **King's Health Partners** (KHP) Education Academy and links to training at undergraduate, foundation and postgraduate speciality levels as well as the extensive research infrastructure linked to the **Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine** (FoLSM) and the **Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience** (IoPPN).

### BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRES

Training and funding is available for pre-doctoral and doctoral research students at King's College London through our two NIHR-funded Biomedical Research Centres:

- **NIHR Guy's and St Thomas' Biomedical Research Centre**
- **NIHR Maudsley Biomedical Research Centre**

### DOCTORAL TRAINING ENTITIES

King's College London is the lead host or partner in a number of Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs) and Partnerships (DTPs) – collectively known as **Doctoral Training Entities** (DTEs).

The DTEs offer funded PGR opportunities, cohort activities, and skills training.

## Careers & Other Resources

### KING'S CAREERS & EMPLOYABILITY

**King's Careers & Employability** provide support for building success on your career and employability journey, wherever you may be along that path, and wherever you may be located as a current student or recent graduate of King's College London.

### RESEARCH DESIGN SERVICE

The NIHR **Research Design Service** (RDS) offers a free service that supports clinicians, health and social care professionals, and academics to develop research proposals and grant applications.

They run free events, as well as drop-in sessions to provide individual feedback on your grant or fellowship proposal.

### ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

The **Academy of Medical Sciences** (AMS) are the independent body in the UK representing the diversity of medical science.

Their mission is to advance biomedical and health research and its translation into benefits for society.

The AMS offer free careers and training workshops, funding, and a mentoring scheme for post-doctoral clinical academics.

## CLINICAL ACADEMIC CAREERS FRAMEWORK

This [framework for optimising clinical academic careers across healthcare professions](#) (PDF, 810kb) is provided by [Health Education England](#).

You can also watch [Developing a Clinical Academic Career](#), a short informative animated video about research opportunities available as part of the Clinical Academic Career pathway.

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

The [National Institute for Health Research](#) (NIHR) are the nation's largest funder of health and care research and provide the people, facilities, and technology that enable research to thrive. You can also find [NIHRtv on YouTube](#).

## MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Investing in people is a key element of the MRC's strategic delivery plan. At any one time, the [MRC supports about 5,000 people across a range of career stages](#) via studentships, fellowships, and grants, and through investments at universities, centres, institutes, and units.

The MRC [offers competitive fellowship funding for clinicians](#) at doctoral and post-doctoral level.

## KING'S HEALTH PARTNERS LEARNING HUB

Achieve your potential. Learn anytime, anywhere. King's Health Partners provide [free online training modules](#) on a range of clinical topics.

## Mentoring & Other Individual Support

### HSDTC PGR BUDDY SCHEME

The [HSDTC PGR Buddy Scheme](#) aims to help newly starting doctoral research students in the Health Faculties at King's College London to find their feet, network with other researchers outside of their immediate surroundings, and gain valuable information on a range of useful topics.

### ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES: MENTORING

The [Academy of Medical Science's one-to-one Mentoring programme](#) provides post-doctoral and independent biomedical and health researchers with career development support by pairing them with an Academy Fellow or senior academic.

The AMS also provides a range of [mentoring resources and events](#).

### ROYAL LITERARY FUND FELLOWS

Would you like to write more clearly, fluently, and professionally?

Our [Royal Literary Fund Fellows](#) offer confidential, one-to-one appointments for doctoral research students & postdoctoral research staff.

## Health Professional Researcher Profiles

At King's we train the future generation of Health Professional research leaders across many disciplines. Find out more about our diverse community and their routes into research by reading their profiles on our [web pages](#).

“*For clinicians who wish to embark on a research pathway, utilise your contacts well and don't be afraid to ask for help.*” **Phillip, 3rd year PhD student (part-time) and Consultant Nurse in Endocrinology**





