

# Careers in clinical trials

*Establishing and developing a career in academic clinical trials in the UK to make a difference to patients and public health*

Many universities and NHS Trusts are currently recruiting to non-clinical roles

Advantages to working in academic clinical trials:

- ✓ Flexible working
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Team work
- ✓ Transferable skills
- ✓ Practice changing research
- ✓ Research ownership
- ✓ Supportive environment
- ✓ Development opportunities



For more information about the roles available visit: [www.jobs.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.ac.uk)



UK Trial Managers' Network  
[www.tmn.ac.uk](http://www.tmn.ac.uk)



UKCRC Clinical Trials Units Network  
[www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk](http://www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk)

# TRIAL MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Multi-tasker
- ✓ Forward thinking
- ✓ Team player
- ✓ Good communicator
- ✓ Problem solver
- ✓ Organised

- Pivotal role in the day-to-day running of a study
- Managing the team and recruiting sites
- Writing and maintaining study documents
- Obtaining ethical and regulatory approvals
- Preparing reports
- Liaising with patients and members of the public
- Writing publications for scientific journals

If you are interested in science, improving patient choices and treatments, and enjoy working as part of a team, there are many specialist disciplines within clinical trials, some of which have entry level roles.

Here are some examples of the different areas within clinical trials, the attributes you might need and the types of activities each role covers

# QUALITY ASSURANCE

- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Investigative
- ✓ Thorough
- ✓ Analytical
- ✓ Collaborative

- Writing and maintaining Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Reviewing study documentation
- Conducting audits
- Writing compliance reports
- Liaising with clinical trial regulators, e.g. inspections
- Perform trial monitoring visits at sites to ensure trials are being conducted according to trial protocol

# INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- ✓ Problem solver
- ✓ Creative thinking
- ✓ Analytical
- ✓ Methodical
- ✓ Proficient in coding

- Writing system specifications, designing, building and maintaining databases such as:
  - study databases
  - randomisation systems
  - electronic consent systems
  - systems for tracking, monitoring and managing research
- Ability to turn concepts into reality

# STATISTICS

- ✓ Analytical
- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Collaborative
- ✓ Pragmatic
- ✓ Multi-tasking

- Design trials and prepare research grant applications
- Sample size calculations
- Preparing the Statistical Analysis Plan (SAP)
- Preparation and data modelling, contributing to design of data collection tools
- Preparing reports for oversight committees
- Statistical programming
- Conducting analyses
- Writing publications for scientific journals

# DATA MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Analytical
- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Methodical
- ✓ Self-motivated
- ✓ Logical

- Designing data collection tools
- User-testing of study databases/systems
- Managing and tracking of quantitative study data
- Data entry
- Raising data queries and data cleaning
- Reviewing ongoing data for reporting
- Quality control