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| 12 Innovations That Will Change Health Care in the 2020s | Time  **lady Sangeeta felllowship**  **in**  **genetics** |  |

# THE LADY SANGEETA FELLOWSHIP IN GENETICS AT RMU

**Job Description and Application**

**Context**

There are a dearth of funding opportunities for Pakistani early career researchers (ECRs) to establish their academic credentials. Time-limited resources and training could help to address this unmet need. To this end, we are happy to advertise a 1 year postgraduate Lady Sangeeta Fellowship scheme in Genetics beginning in October 2023.

**Aims**

This genetics fellowship is primarily intended to develop research capacity in Pakistan. The Fellowship will support individuals with the potential for and on a trajectory to become a future research leader. They are intended to support ECRs at various points of their development, from initial pre-doctoral training to post-doctoral research.

These Fellowships are designed to:

* Support individuals transitioning to the next level in their careers, which may be through a change from an existing / current role
* Provide funding for an ambitious programme of research training and a challenging research project, which offers accelerated personal and career development
* Enable progression towards fulfilling long term career goals, which includes an aspiration to strengthen the local research base.

**Plan**

* Fellowship scheme aimed at ECRs, defined as those that are either pre-doctoral or within 5 years of completing their doctorate and do not yet have permanent academic posts
* Will be based at RMU
* Fellowship scheme will provide RMU-based supervision and mentoring from international thought-leaders
* Open to those who have graduated from medicine or any health-related discipline
* Start date for first intake is beginning of academic year October 2023
* Duration of Fellowship: 12 months
  + First six months: laboratory work (Full time)
  + Second six months**:** Project implementation for commercialisation /publication /report writing
* Interim reviews at 3 and 6 months and final review at 12 months.
* Patent: Project shall be owned by RMU.

**Award and support**

* Degree eligibility: One year experience certificate of trainee shall be awarded.
* Fellows will receive a research stipend of: Rs 25,000/month
* Funds for consumables: Rs 75,000

**Further details**

Applicants for the Fellowship will need to propose a research project and research training/development in Genetics. Applicants will be required to demonstrate the new skills and experience they hope to gain through the award and how it will benefit their future career in genetics research. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate a continued commitment to a research career in an area of relevance and a clearly articulated plan for how the award will support their career development, including applications for future funding, and the skills and experience they hope to gain by undertaking the award. Applicants must already hold a masters, medical or doctorate degree and be committed to a career in research. Fellowships will be for 12 months in duration. NB: Fellowships must be completed and reported to before 30 October 2024. Fellows will be based at RMU.

**Key dates**

* Deadline for submission of application: 15 Feb 2023
* Notification of shortlisted eligible candidates: 03 March 2023
* Interview of shortlisted candidates: 08 March 2023
* Candidates will be informed of the outcome of interviews: 15 March 2023
* Start date of Fellowship: October 2023.

**Application Form for Lady Sangeeta Fellowship in Genetics**

**Applicant**

Complete your full contact details, including your current email address. This will be used to contact you if there are any queries regarding your application, and to announce the outcomes of the call.

**Supervisors**

You should have at least one supervisor based at RMU. You will also be appointed an international mentor who is an expert in the field of genetics.

**Research Proposal Summary**

**Project title:** Be concise, but try to be descriptive. The title should reflect the aim of the project.

**Duration of Fellowship:** 12 months

**Proposed start date:** October 2023 with pre-planning between April and September 2023 to allow for a prompt start date.

**Applicant Background (Please also attach a CV)**

**Degrees and professional qualifications**

Please include any relevant qualifications, the type and duration of any Fellowships previously or currently held, and any research degrees (e.g. MPhil/MD/PhD) obtained or for which the applicant is already registered**.**

**Research experience (200 words max)**

Please use this section to describe your research experience and career to date and how this makes you suitable for this Fellowship, and to undertake the research being proposed. Please include the following: Research you have led or made a significant contribution to (making clear what your role was), the research methods you have experience of, and the impact and outputs of the research you have been involved in (linking to details given in your CV). Any other relevant experience such as supervisory, management, teaching, public engagement and involvement, or leadership experience;

Other skills and experience which highlights your suitability for the Fellowship and which demonstrates your potential as a future health research leader. Include any research grants held, publications and communications (including posters and conference proceedings), and relevant prizes, awards or other academic distinctions. Details of relevant research grants (obtained in the last five years) should include any personal research training awards or Fellowships. Please indicate clearly any co-applicants and provide brief details of the nature and full extent of your involvement (e.g. project design, project management, day to day running, data collection, data analysis, writing papers for publication, etc.). If you have no previous research experience (i.e. are seeking a change in career direction in research), please describe your motivation for this career change, and highlight any previous experience which you feel may be relevant.

*Applicant employment history should not be entered here, but should be entered in a CV attachment*

**Career intentions (200 words max)**

Please indicate your reasons for applying for this Fellowship and outline your short- and long-term research and career intentions. In the case of medically qualified applicants this section should include details of how you will balance your research and clinical commitments and plans for the completion of any specialist training. This Fellowship is primarily intended to develop research capacity by supporting people with the potential to become future leaders in research. In particular, the Fellowships are available to support individuals transitioning to the next level in their careers, supporting ambitious research training and projects which offer accelerated personal and career development, progressing long term career goals and supporting career transition into applied health research.

**Impact of Fellowship (200 words max)**

Please describe the impact this Fellowship will have on your career, noting that a Fellowship should provide you with a step change in your career trajectory. Identify how this Fellowship will help you attain the career plans described above in the ‘Career Intentions’ section. Clearly articulate how the research project and training and development programme proposed will enable you to make a career transition and the impact this will have on the direction you see your research career going in as a result of the Fellowship.

Describe how this Fellowship will provide you with the skills, experience, and data to support applications for future funding.

**Research environment, proposed supervisor and research support** **(250 words max)**

Please provide details about the individuals providing research support and mentorship. Your supervisor should provide you with support throughout your Fellowship in both your research endeavours, training and development programme, and overall career development. Your lead supervisor should be based at RMU. They should have a clear understanding of the research process, the demands your chosen area of training and development are likely to place on you, and your particular strengths and weaknesses. Please use this section to demonstrate the experience and particular skills that each supervisor will bring, and how they will support you in your training and development programme and overall career development, to the completion of your Fellowship. Details of the number of previous PhD and/or Fellowships they have successfully supervised to completion should be included, as well as their current supervisory load. Please also highlight the scientific and/or clinical research expertise of your supervisors and the relevance of that to supporting your research project and achieving the aims of your Fellowship. They should have expertise in the scientific area of the application and will act as guarantor for the quality of the proposed research and level of training and development the organisation will provide.

**Host organisation (200 words max)**

The Host Organisation, RMU, is the place where you will spend the majority of your Fellowship. This section should detail how your host organisation is going to enable you to successfully complete your research and training and development programme, to develop your research career in the long-term. Please provide information as to why the organisation is appropriate for the work proposed, including both the training and scientific considerations which led you to choose the proposed host organisation (or department within that organisation). Describe any special features of the research training environment in the host organisation that attracted you to it. Please provide information on the organisation’s track record of supporting early career researchers, such as evidence of bridging or other support provided to Fellows upon completion of an award. If significant additional host organisation support is to be provided, for example, providing additional research assistant(s)/PhD student(s) to the Fellow if successful, then please include this here. Provide information on the scientific suitability for the organisation to host your Fellowship. Include the types of infrastructural support that the host organisation will provide, for example does the organisation provide access to particular equipment or facilities required for your Fellowship. Consider also whether the organisation will provide a positive research environment, for example, will you be joining a large or small team, are there a large number of publications, are there regular seminars or opportunities for knowledge exchange and networking outside of yourplanned training and development programme.

**Proposed training and development programme (500 words max)**

Please use this section to detail the training and development you will undertake as part of the Fellowship. This should cover both the training you may need to undertake the research being proposed but also training designed to support your development as a future health research leader. Training may include, but is not limited to; formal courses, training in specialist skills and research methodologies, placements with other research groups or centres, leadership skills, conference attendance and overseas research visits. It is important that the training and development programme is tailored to your specific needs and complements the research being proposed as part of your Fellowship.

**Collaborations (250 words max)**

Explain what collaborations you intend to establish to support your research and, if applicable, your training and development programme. This may involve short visiting placements (e.g. an overseas research visit), or secondments in new (to the applicant) research environments, e.g. clinical trials units or data science centres etc. Collaborations can be national or international and commercial, clinical or academic. You may consider spending some time working at the university/clinical/industry interface, which may provide new skills and knowledge linked to translating ideas into new treatments and products from which patients can benefit. As such, where appropriate, you should consider any industry collaborations you may wish to establish during the course of your Fellowship. You should include; the training and development the collaboration will provide; the facilities and expertise you will have access to; and how the collaboration will strengthen links between academia, industry and clinical practice in your country, the UK and globally. A letter of support from each collaborator indicating their willingness to support the project as described in this section must be submitted with the application.

**Patient and Public Involvement (200 words max)**

RMU requires appropriate and relevant involvement of patients and the public and other key stakeholders in the research it supports. If you have involved patients and/or the public in developing this proposal, please describe who has been involved and why this is appropriate, what role(s) they have played and what influence or change has happened as result of their involvement. Please also describe the ways in which patients and the public will be actively involved in the proposed research, including how you will support and enable PPI in your research (e.g. payments, training). You should say who will be involved and why, and why PPI is appropriate for this proposal. If it is considered not appropriate and meaningful to actively involve patients and the public in your proposed research, please justify why not.

**Research Proposal**

**Lay Summary of Research (500 words max)**

The summary section should be used to provide a clear explanation of your research in language that can be understood by a non-academic audience, explaining the context of the research, its aims and objectives, and its potential applications and benefits. The section is limited to 500 words. Many reviewers use this summary to inform their review of your application. They will include clinicians and researchers who do not necessarily have specialist knowledge of your field. If it is felt that your summary is not clear and of a good quality then you may be required to amend it prior to final funding approval. It can be helpful to involve patients/carers/members of the public in developing a summary which can be understood by non-specialists.

When writing your summary consider including the following information where appropriate:

• aim(s) of the research

• background to the research

• design and methods used

• patient and public involvement

• dissemination

This summary is not the same as a scientific abstract

**Scientific Abstract** **(250 words max)**

A scientific abstract should be a clear and concise scientific summary of your detailed research plan and methods. You may want to include the following headings depending on the design of the proposed research, the setting and programme being applied to, and whether it is for primary research or evidence synthesis. It is up to you if you wish to use some/all of the elements below, or whether you may wish to include additional headings if more appropriate for your proposed study:

• Research question

• Background

• Aims and objectives

• Methods

• Anticipated impact and dissemination

**Detailed Research Plan** **(5 pages max)**

Please limit this section to 5 pages and use a minimum font size 11, and single line spacing. Use this section to clearly explain your proposed research, and its overall aims, or the aims of the Programme or Platform to which your Fellowship is aligned.. As this is the main part of your application detailing your proposal which will be considered by the reviewing Panel you should ensure that the information is accurate, succinct and clearly laid out.

You may want to structure this section according roughly to the areas below:

• The importance of your proposed study: explain the need for research in this area and the rationale for the particular lines of research planned. Demonstrate why this research is important in terms of improving the health and/or wellbeing of the public and/or to patients and health and care services. Provide a clear explanation of the health problem to be addressed, the impact on patients as well as health and care services, and how this research would fill a demonstrable evidence gap.

• Review the existing evidence: How does the existing literature support this proposal? Explain why this research is needed now, both in terms of time and relevance. You may propose to undertake a systematic review as part of the Fellowship, provided it is well justified.

• Research Plan: summarise the research question and describe the aims and objectives of the proposed research. Give details, where applicable, of; study design, justification of sample size, selection and exclusion criteria, methods of data collection and analysis, reproducibility and statistical design, and justification for your choice of methodology. It is not necessary to describe each aspect in detail, but you must provide enough information to show why the research is likely to be competitive in its field. Include any key references required to justify the points made (e.g. in the use of particular outcome measures or methods of analysis).

• Describe all studies including human participants and outline any ethical and/or other regulatory issues, and arrangements for handling them. If there are no plans to obtain ethical review, this must be clearly justified.

• Highlight plans which are particularly original or unique.

• Outline the processes (project management) that will be put in place to ensure the research described will be well managed. Set out the measurements of success you intend to use and also the key risks to delivering this research and what contingencies you will put in place to deal with them. This section should identify appropriate actions that would reduce or eliminate each risk or its impact. For example, explain how new techniques or particularly difficult or risky studies will be tackled, and outline alternative approaches should these fail. Please provide any references in a separate document.

**Dissemination, Outputs and Impact**

**Academic beneficiaries** (250 words max)

This section should summarise how your proposed research will contribute to academic knowledge within your country and globally. This should include how the research will benefit other researchers in the field, identify academic beneficiaries in other disciplines and outline how the results of the proposed research will be disseminated to these beneficiaries.

**Stakeholder engagement and communications plan (500 words max)**

Plans should be outlined for engagement beyond the academic/research community, with individuals and organisations who may be in a position to benefit from, and/or to utilise your research outcomes. This should include early engagement with potential stakeholders to help shape the research plans, continued engagement as appropriate through the lifetime of the project, and clear communication of outcomes to inform both previously engaged and new stakeholders. Try to identify all stakeholders who are relevant to your research proposal – the different audiences that may be interested in or benefit from the proposed research, both directly and indirectly (e.g. public, patients, clinicians, policy makers, industry etc). Think about your research from each stakeholder’s point of view – what is in it for them? – then decide on a course of action to engage with them. Try to plan engagement activities relevant to the stage of research being carried out, utilising appropriate modes of engaging and communicating to relevant stakeholders. For each stakeholder group you need to be clear about how they will benefit from your proposed research and, where appropriate, how they have been involved in the development of the application, as well as the plans for their involvement in the proposed research and the outputs from your project. Decide what it is that you would like your audience to know or do in response to learning about your research. You can then develop communications approaches appropriate to each of your target audiences.

**Impact summary** **(250 words max)**

The sections above describe your plans for engaging with stakeholders, and how you will disseminate your outputs. This is your opportunity to describe in detail what the outputs of your research might be and what impact may result from their dissemination.

You could consider:

• What do you intend to produce from your research?

• How will your outputs enter the healthcare system or society as a whole?

• What do you think the impact of your research will be on each of the audiences and stakeholders you identified? How will they benefit from your research? Activities which will promote potential economic and societal benefits should be considered. In describing the anticipated impact of the expected outputs on the health and care of patients, the public, and on health and care services, you may think about; patient benefit (enhancing quality of life and health); changes to health service provision (increasing the effectiveness of public services and policy); and potential for commercial return (which could contribute to economic growth). Include specific actions that you could take to ensure that the potential beneficiaries identified above have the opportunity to benefit from the research, and include realistic timescales for the benefits to be realised. Some of the longer term impacts may not be seen until after the Fellowship has been completed.

**Justification of costs (1 page max)**

Please attach a completed budget spreadsheet (template provided). The maximum total budget for a 12 month Fellowship is Rs 375,000. In this section please provide a breakdown of costs associated with undertaking the research and training and development programme, and provide justification for all of the resources requested.

**Additional attachments:**

1) Applicant CV

2) Letters of support from proposed supervisor

• The letter should state how long, and in what capacity they have known the applicant.

• They should provide their views on the applicant’s scientific ability, suitability, and commitment to successfully undertake the Fellowship scheme for which they are applying.

• The letter should include their views on the suitability of the project for the research training and career development of the candidate, and state how well it aligns with their own research interests.

• Provide assurances that the supervisor will have adequate time for the level of supervision required.

3) Budget spreadsheet

4) References (optional)