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| **Job Title:** | 2x fully funded 3-year PhD Studentships  |
| **Department/Division/Faculty:**  | NIHR North West London Patient Safety Research Collaboration (NIHR North West London PSRC) – Located at the Institute of Global Health Innovation |
| **Campus location:** | St Mary’s Campus (Paddington) |
| **Job Family/Level:**  | PhD Student |
| **Salary** | The studentship will pay Home UK tuition fees and annual stipend of £21,000 for max of 36 months. **Please note that we cannot pay International Tuition fees at this time.** |
| **Responsible to:**  | PSRC Theme 4 Leads and nominated supervisor(s) |
| **Line Management responsibility for:**  | N/A |
| **Key Working Relationships (internal):** | Dr Amish Acharya, Scientific Advisor; Dr Simon Dryden, Scientific Advisor; PSRC Theme Leads; PSRC Centre Manager; PSRC Research Associates |
| **Key Working Relationships (external):** | N/A |
| **Contract type:**  | 3 years |

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| **Purpose of the Post**Applications are invited for 2 PhD Studentships across the research themes of the NIHR North West London Patient Safety Research Collaboration (NIHR NWL PSRC). **Please note we can only fund for Home UK tuition fees, and these will be the only applications considered therefore at this time.**[**The Centre**](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/)The Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) is one of the seven global challenge institutes at Imperial College. Housed within the Faculty of Medicine, the Institute is well placed to leverage the College’s wealth of multidisciplinary talent to innovate across science, technology, design, and policy. By doing so, the Institute’s goal is to develop evidence-based, cutting-edge solutions to the issues faced by healthcare systems and to create transformational improvement in the quality and equity of patient care, population health and wellbeing. The Institute attracts a strong cohort of students and scholars across its educational and academic programmes and continues to advance a broadening research agenda, through its five interdisciplinary centres of excellence which includes the NIHR North West London Patient Safety Research Collaborative (PSRC).Our aims are to advance the scientific understanding of patient safety, address safety challenges as healthcare evolves and further international research collaborations. We work with local, national and international partners to support the wider dissemination and implementation of patient safety improvements and interventions.We develop patient safety in the NHS and internationally through engagement with patients and the public, clinical partners, healthcare organisations, industry and government. We use our funding to deliver sustainable long-term, high impact programmes of translational research in patient safety. **Research Areas**There are 2x studentships currently available in the following research area:1. Evaluating and integrating patient safety in the design of new service delivery models

Please note that projects have been scoped and successful applicants will have the ability to take on one of two research projects. There is also the potential to shape the PhD around the candidate’s interests. Interested applicants are encouraged to seek more information through the NIHR NWL PSRC website. Informal, exploratory chats can also be scheduled. Please:* Email the Centre Manager, Julia Thomas (julia.thomas@imperial.ac.uk), for general queries regarding the Centre and the hiring process.

**Evaluating and integrating patient safety in the design of new service delivery models** This theme is led by Dr Ana Luisa Neves and Prof the Lord Ara Darzi (please email ana.luisa.neves14@imperial.ac.uk and CC julia.thomas@imperial.ac.uk). The COVID-19 pandemic triggered rapid changes in service delivery and urged the NHS to utilise new technologies to support them. While enduring benefits are possible, virtual care also comes with safety risks. Alternative service delivery models involve changes on when, where and how care is delivered. This theme will support the safe implementation of alternative service delivery models by using data-driven approaches to generate evidence on their safety impact, empowering patients and staff towards safer use and co-designing, implementing, and evaluating interventions. The two projects include: 1. Evaluating the safety of virtual consultations and generating data-driven insights to identify high-risk patients
2. Generating data-driven insights into patient-provider communication in digitally-enhanced consultations

**Qualifications and person-specifications** We are looking for candidates with a strong academic background (with a first class degree) or MSc in the following subjects or related:* Health policy
* Health services research and service evaluation
* Psychology, decision-making, behavioural science and other related disciplines
* Data science and medical informatics
* Healthcare quality improvement

Successful candidates will have experience in undertaking independent research in the above subjects. Applicants must also demonstrate familiarity with mainstream quantitative research methods and qualitative research methods used in patient safety. We are looking for individuals with experience in one or more of the following areas and an interest to further develop his/her skills. * Qualitative methods, including:
* Ethnographic research (including observational)
* Focus groups
* In-depth interviews
* Thematic analysis
* Consensus studies
* Service audits and evaluation
	+ Quantitative methods, including:
		- Survey design and data collection
		- Data mining techniques applied to healthcare
		- Proficiency in data preparation, cleaning and analysis using standard statistical packages (e.g. SPSS, Stata, R)
		- Experimental studies of human judgment

The PhD student will be supervised by the multi-disciplinary team in the Division of Surgery. Through the research programme at Imperial, the PhD student will benefit from strong links and involvement with the Institute for Global Health Innovation. All students will be registered through the Imperial Graduate School which provides a full programme of training in research and transferable skills. Further details of the Department can be found at: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/graduateschools>. |
| **How to apply**In the first instance, please: * Email: julia.thomas@imperial.ac.uk with an expression of interest.
* Your expression of interest should contain *all* of the following items:
	+ Your CV
	+ A personal statement no more than 1000 words outlining: 1) your interest, 2) your background, and 3) which research area(s) you would like to base your project on
	+ Scans of your educational certificates and transcripts from your Master’s degree and your Bachelor’s degrees
	+ Names and contact details of 2 referees who can speak to your educational background. Reference letters from these referees are ideal, but not required at this stage.

Short-listed candidates will be informed via email and will be interviewed. Successful candidates will be required to formally apply through the Imperial College London Postgraduate Research (PhD) Programme route. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS ONLY AVAILABLE TO HOME STUDENTS.**  |

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| **Person Specification** |
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| **Requirements**Candidates/post holders will be expected to demonstrate the following | **Essential (E)/****Desirable (D)** |
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| * **Education**
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| First-Class Degree in health policy, health services research, psychology/behavioural science disciplines or similar  | **E** |
| MSc in the above subjects | **D** |
| **Experience** |  |
| Evidence of an interest in Research | **E** |
| * Experience with mainstream qualitative and/or quantitative methods
 | **E** |
| **Knowledge** |  |
| Desire to learn and advance skills in qualitative and quantitative methods | **E** |
| Knowledge of patient safety and relevant issues | **D** |
| **Skills & Abilities** |  |
| Proven analytical skills | **E** |
| Ability to present themselves at conferences and seminars with authority and coherence | **E** |
| Excellent written communications skills and the ability to write technical reports clearly and succinctly for publication | **E** |
| Ability to organise and prioritise own work with minimal supervision | **E** |
| Ability to work to tight deadlines | **E** |
| Ability to work as part of a team | **E** |
| Ability to develop personal research projects | **E** |

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| Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the post-holders may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities.Imperial College is committed to equality of opportunity and to eliminating discrimination. All employees are expected to follow the [7 Imperial Expectations](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/human-resources/working-at-imperial/imperial-expectations/) detailed below: 1. Champion a positive approach to change and opportunity
2. Encourage inclusive participation and eliminate discrimination
3. Communicate regularly and effectively within and across teams
4. Consider the thoughts and expectations of others
5. Deliver positive outcomes
6. Develop and grow skills and expertise
7. Work in a planned and managed way

Employees are also required to comply with all College policies and regulations paying special attention to:

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| * Confidentiality
* Conflict of Interest
* Data Protection
* Equal Opportunities
 | * Financial Regulations
* Health and Safety
* Information Technology
* Smoking
 | * Private Engagements and Register of Interests
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They must also undertake specific training and assume responsibility for safety relevant to specific roles, as set out on the [College Website Health and Safety Structure and Responsibilities](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/safety/safety-by-topic/safety-management/health-and-safety-management-system/structure-and-responsibilities/safety-management-responsibilities/) page. |

As this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a satisfactory (standard/enhanced/enhanced for regulated activity) Disclosure and Barring Service checkwill be required for the successful candidate.

Further information about the DBS disclosure process can be found at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/agencies-public-bodies/dbs/> or by telephoning 0870 90 90 811. You may also wish to view the College’s policy statements on the [Recruitment and Employment of Ex-Offenders](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/human-resources/procedures/recruiting-staff/disclosure-and-barring-service/) and the [Secure Storage, Use, Retention & Disposal of Disclosures and Disclosure Information](https://www.imperial.ac.uk/human-resources/procedures/recruiting-staff/disclosure-and-barring-service/)

*The College is a proud signatory to the San-Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA),* *which means that in hiring and promotion decisions, we evaluate applicants on the quality of their work, not the journal impact factor where it is published. For more information, see*[*https://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-evaluation/*](https://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-evaluation/)

*The College believes that the use of animals in research is vital to improve human and animal health and welfare. Animals may only be used in research programmes where their use is shown to be necessary for developing new treatments and making medical advances. Imperial is committed to ensuring that, in cases where this research is deemed essential, all animals in the College’s care are treated with full respect, and that all staff involved with this work show due consideration at every level.*

[*http://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-integrity/animal-research*](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-integrity/animal-research)/

*Committed to equality and valuing diversity, we are an Athena SWAN Silver Award winner, a Stonewall Diversity Champion, a Disability Confident Employer and work in partnership with GIRES to promote respect for trans people.*