



NCRI Clinical Studies Groups & Advisory Group Trainee Scheme – Autumn 2018 start

Are you a trainee interested in getting involved in cancer research in the UK?

NCRI Clinical Studies Groups (CSGs) & Advisory Group Trainee scheme

The 18 National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Clinical Studies Groups (CSGs) have a remit to develop a portfolio of trials for specific cancer types or treatment approaches. This includes developing proposals, considering new research questions, overseeing the portfolio of existing studies, and securing research funding. The CSGs are multi-disciplinary with representation from a wide range of specialities including (but not limited to) surgery, medical oncology, clinical oncology, radiology, pathology, epidemiology, psychology, statistics and translational science.

The NCRI also has one Advisory Group, the Screening, Prevention and Early Diagnosis (SPED) Group, that brings together patient and public representatives and experts in various disciplines similar to CSGs across all tumour types, to provide advice on research in the areas of screening, prevention and early diagnosis.

The CSG & Advisory Group trainee scheme allows junior researchers to become members of the CSGs/Advisory Group for a two-year period. It will provide an insight into the workings of a CSG/Advisory Group, a significant early opportunity for those who have an interest in research!

Applicants should be at registrar level, or equivalent.

Aims & Objectives

- Experience the workings of a national CSG/Advisory Group, including the means of accessing advice from these groups.
- Build collaborative networks with established researchers in your field of interest and to potentially develop your own ideas in association with a mentor from the CSG/Advisory Group.
- Gain exposure and insight into trial development from initial conception and obtaining funding, through to setting up and running the trial (CSGs trainee scheme only).
- Play a role in rolling out or invigorating existing cancer trials (CSGs trainee scheme only)
- Educate about funding streams and the application process in screening, prevention and early diagnosis research (SPED Advisory Group trainee scheme only).
- Educate in areas such as barriers to recruitment and potential interventions to these issues.

The Role - CSG Trainee Scheme

Successful candidates (no more than 2 trainees per CSG) will be appointed to the CSG and attached to a subgroup. You will be expected to:

- attend two subgroup meetings per year (face to face or teleconference)
- attend two CSG meetings per year, in order to gain a general overview of how the subgroup feeds into the CSG
- attend a National Annual Trials day and strategy day (if applicable to the CSG and depending on whether it falls within the period of tenure of the trainee)
- submit a report on your involvement in any activities relating to the CSG, at each CSG meeting and submit a report at the end of your term
- become involved with a CSG project identified by the CSG Chair.

The Role – SPED Advisory Group

Successful candidates will be appointed to the Advisory Group and will be expected to:

- attend two Advisory Group meetings per year, in order to gain a general overview of how the advisory group works
- take the lead on a SPED project identified by the Advisory Group Chair and present the results of this, at the end of the period of tenure.

Duration

Appointments will be for two years in the first instance, allowing sufficient time for the trainee to undertake activities that inform them about all aspects of clinical trial development. Continuation of involvement with specific projects will be discussed by the trainee and CSG/Advisory Group.

Application and selection process

If you are interested in becoming an NCRI CSG/Advisory Group Trainee, please complete an online application form including the submission of a 2 page CV and a covering letter detailing:

- how you think this scheme would benefit you, should your application be successful?
- how your appointment would contribute to the CSG/Advisory Group?

To access the online application form, please click on the link below:

<http://csg.ncri.org.uk/opportunities-2/cs-gs-advisory-group-trainee-scheme/>

Deadline: 5pm, Monday 2 July 2018

The selection process is as follows:

- applications will be sent to the CSG/Advisory Group Chair by the NCRI CRG Team

- applications will be reviewed and scored by CSG/Advisory Group Chair, Subgroup Chairs and Head of NCRI Clinical Research Groups as appropriate a final decision will be made by the CSG/Advisory Group Chair
- the NCRI Executive Team will notify the applicants of outcome of their application by end of July 2018.

Funding and Support

The post will be unpaid and successful applicants must be able to fund their own travel and subsistence. However, successful applicants who work in an Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre (ECMC) could apply to the ECMC Network to claim travel and subsistence costs. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, please click on the link below:

<http://www.ecmcnetwork.org.uk/funding-available-ncri-clinical-studies-groups-csgs-trainee-scheme>

NCRI CSG & SPED Advisory Group Trainees will be allocated an established researcher as a mentor. Additional peer support will be available to trainees at a networking event from former trainees.

Further information

For further information about the NCRI CSGs trainee scheme please contact **Nicola Keat**, Head of Clinical Research Groups (Nicola.Keat@ncri.org.uk) or **Nanita Dalal**, CSG Coordinator (nanita.dalal@ncri.org.uk).

For more information on the NCRI CSGs and the SPED Advisory Group, please visit csg.ncri.org.uk.