

HRC and Girdlers' UK Fellowship

Possible host GTC Fellows

Professor Andrew Sharott

Professor of Neuroscience

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- The Sharott Group, based in the MRC Brain Network Dynamics Unit in the Nuffield Dept. of Clinical Neurosciences, can offer projects in several areas of neurophysiology and neuromodulation, using approaches in animal models and/or human subjects. We specialise in development and implementation of “closed-loop” approaches, including novel algorithms for tracking brain activity and/or behaviour. We utilise these approaches to manipulate neural activity for both discovery science and translational applications.

Professor Belinda Lennox

Head of Department

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- Psychiatry

Professor Leanne Hodson

BHF Senior Basic Science Research Fellow

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- Undertake studies pertinent to human health to investigate the effects of phenotype, genotype, diet/lifestyle factors on cardiometabolic disease risk.

Professor Paul Klenerman

Sidney Truelove Professor of Gastroenterology

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- Immunity to infections and cancer. In particular studies of chronic infections and vaccines, analyses of conventional and unconventional T cell responses, and interactions between antiviral responses and host inflammatory disease or cancer.

Professor Sara Shaw

Professor of Translational Health, Policy and Practice

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- We are an interdisciplinary research group (IRIHS), based in the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, and bringing clinical medicine together with social sciences (e.g. sociology, health psychology, human-computer interaction). We typically use qualitative methods in our research, giving a strong foundation for understanding and addressing problems relating to clinical practice, organisation and

delivery of health services, health policy, translational science (covering the social and behavioural science of innovation and adoption), digital health and the patient experience.

Professor Sarah Lewington

Professor of Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, Director of Graduate Studies (Taught Courses)

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- Keren Papier and I would be keen to host Girdler's Fellow working in the field of nutritional epidemiology. In particular, investigating the role of diet on long-term health outcomes using data from The Million Women Study and the UK Biobank.

Professor Shoumo Bhattacharya

Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine

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- The host department is the Radcliffe Department of Medicine (<https://www.rdm.ox.ac.uk>) where disciplines cover cardiovascular medicine, diabetes and metabolism, molecular medicine, investigative medicine, and clinical laboratory sciences. The host groups (Shoumo Bhattacharya & David Hodson, both Fellows of Green Templeton College) are jointly investigating approaches to develop new treatments for type 1 diabetes, an autoimmune disorder that destroys the pancreatic islets and leads to dependence on insulin injection. Current treatments work by suppressing the immune system and have side effects of infection and cancer. Our approach is inspired by tick evasin proteins, which instead block the trafficking of immune cells by binding chemokines. We have identified small peptides from larger evasins that are effective in this regard and are now developing methods to improve them and target them to pancreatic islets. Our work is funded by the British Heart Foundation, Steven Morgan T1D Grand Challenge / Diabetes UK, and Breakthrough-T1D awards, which together provide the foundations for any Girdlers' Fellow.

Professor Simon de Lusignan

Professor of Primary Care and Clinical Informatics

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- The fellow will be hosted at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences (NDPCHS) at the University of Oxford. The department's work spans a wide range of areas, with its Clinical Informatics and Health Outcomes Research Group (CIHORG) focussing on disease surveillance and epidemiology, covering infectious and cardiometabolic disease.
- CIHORT is the home of the English national sentinel surveillance network, the Oxford-Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Research and Surveillance

Centre (RSC) of 2,000 general practices with whom we have direct contacts (cohort profile).

Professor Stavros Petrou

Academic Research Lead in Health Economics

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- Health agencies across the world regularly make recommendations to governments on whether the cost of a medicine or treatment should be subsidised. In making these recommendations, the safety, effectiveness and efficiency of the medicine or treatment compared to the alternative medicine or treatment must be considered.
- Efficiency is estimated by economic evaluations that compare the cost and health outcomes of the new medicine or treatment with the alternative treatment.
- Evaluations need to address outcomes specific to the medicine, for example it could be a treatment for asthma or high blood pressure or diabetes. But importantly the evaluation must also consider the effects of the medicine or treatment on health-related quality of life. Health technology assessment agencies are well versed in the methods for measuring and evaluating health-related quality of life in adults. However, due to many practical and methodological challenges in child populations this is not the case for medicines aimed at improving the health of children.
- TORCH is an international-collaborative project that addresses these challenges through the development of reliable tools to support evaluations of the efficiency of medicines or treatments for improving the health of children. These will be directly relevant to decisions made by policymakers.

Professor Stephanie Dakin

Professor of Musculoskeletal Sciences

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- The Dakin Group undertakes translational research focusing on identifying the cellular and molecular basis of inflammatory fibrotic soft tissue joint diseases, with research programmes on tendinopathy, frozen shoulder and knee arthrofibrosis. Understanding the cellular and molecular basis of these diseases will inform new therapeutic approaches targeting tissue resident stromal cells of the joint, to promote resolution of inflammatory fibrotic disease.

Professor Sue Ziebland

Professor of medical sociology

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- The Medical Sociology and Health Experiences research group (MS&HERG) in the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences would be pleased to host a Girdler's fellow in the years 2026-28.