



**Opportunity for experienced community Pharmacists to support clinical research (secondment)
Band 8a (NHS Agenda for Change) pro rata
Possible appointment through local pharmacy locum agency
January - March 2012**

The East of England Primary Care Research Network (PCRN-EoE) is funding up to six part-time secondments for pharmacists across the East of England area (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Cambridge and Norfolk) who are working in primary or community care. The role involves engaging with community pharmacists in the area to raise awareness of the opportunities for community pharmacists to engage with National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)¹ portfolio² research studies, identifying a local group of pharmacists who are interested in being part of a clinical research network and providing support and guidance on pharmacy aspects of clinical trials.

These opportunities will run for 3 months in the first instance with possible extension to 6 months subject to funding. The postholder will either remain employed within their own environment to work with the PCRN EoE for 2 - 3 days per week. There will be no clinical work involved. If a secondee is not appointed for a particular area then an appointment through a local locum pharmacy agency will be considered. Pharmacists who have experience of working in different community settings are preferred.

The post holder will

1. Engage with community pharmacists to promote opportunities to become involved in NIHR research. (Involvement can range from helping to invite participants into clinical trials to becoming a clinical trials pharmacy through a planned programme of training and support).
2. Establish a small network of local pharmacies/pharmacists willing to be involved in NIHR research studies (see above)
3. Learn about clinical trials pharmacy requirements through shadowing opportunities and GCP training.

¹ The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has been established by the Department of Health to build a vibrant and world-class research environment in England.

² Portfolio studies are those research studies, funded by NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) partners and which have been adopted onto the UKCRN portfolio. These are typically studies which are funded by research councils, national charities, DH funding streams and some industry studies
http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/about_us/processes/portfolio

4. Attend appropriate meetings and events and liaise with the pharmacy community on behalf of the PCRN - EoE
5. Support pharmacy staff attached to general practices who are involved in clinical trials. Advise on best practice and give guidance to practices doing clinical trials (pharmacy aspects) as needed.
6. Look at relevant clinical trial protocols and advise on their doability in the pharmacy setting and undertake any associated feasibility work
7. Liaise with local clinical trials pharmacists in NIHR Clinical Research Networks and connect into the emerging pharmacy workstream
8. Contribute to the development of a research site initiative scheme for pharmacies (a scheme to provide funding to pharmacies involved in NIHR portfolio research studies).

Applications

You are encouraged to discuss your application with Helen Macdonald PCRN-EoE Manager, Helen.macdonald@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk 07852 766182

Applications must be submitted on the attached form and should be received electronically by **mid day December 9th** and will be considered by the PCRN-EoE Executive. **Signed hard copies** of the application form must be received by **December 13th**. **Interviews are scheduled for December 14th and will be held in Cambridge.**

Web link: [Secondment Opportunities in the east of England PCRN](#)

These secondments are funded through the NIHR Flexibility and Sustainability Funding stream. (Further information is available if required)

PLEASE NOTE

There are a number of terms used in the invitation and the application form that may be new and are specific to the terms used by the National Institute for Health Research CRN (Clinical Research Networks). The footnotes provide some background and related web links but please contact Helen Macdonald for further clarification if required.

