**TRANSLATE/NIHR PhD Studentships**

All studentships are highly competitive, and you should ensure (and demonstrate) that there is a good match between your qualifications and interests and those being sought for the particular studentship.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Research School where studentships will be held | The student will be registered full-time with Keele University School of Medicine and full-time based at Khyber Medical University, Pakistan (KMU). |
| Studentship reference | Provided by PGR Admin |
| Web link to any further information (e.g. Research Institute) | <https://www.keele.ac.uk/globalhealth/research/translate/> |
| Research topic or field - title | Translating evidence for Early Intervention in Psychosis in Low and Lower-Middle Countries LMICs: Implementation and Evaluation |
| Research topic or field –  full description (or attach document) | (See the project information below) |
| Expected start date | August 2025 and to be confirmed |
| Funding support available  – Fees, stipend, duration | This is a “Joint Supervision” studentship between Keele University, UK, and Khyber Medical University, Pakistan (KMU), which will follow the same model as the CONTROL project (ID713).    The PhD is fully funded by NIHR Global Research Professorship (NIHR-303164). Funding will cover 100% tuition fee for Keele University. However, stipend will be paid according to KMU standard PhD studentships rate as student will be based full time at KMU in Pakistan. Funding will also cover 3-4 visits to Keele University and consumables for 3 years. |
| Source of funding | NIHR Global Research Professorship Award (NIHR 303164) to Professor Saeed Farooq. |
| Eligibility criteria | This studentship is suitable for Pakistan nationals only currently based in Pakistan with a degree in medicine with FCPS or equivalent in Psychiatry or have completed FCPS training in psychiatry with evidence of research. UK applicants with Pakistan nationality will only be considered if they are not residing in the UK for more than 12 months.  A particular interest and some experience in mental health research is desirable. |
| Terms and conditions of studentship | As per the Keele [University Code of Practice](https://www.keele.ac.uk/media/keeleuniversity/policyzone20/studentandacademicservices/postgraduate-research-degrees-cop.pdf) |
| Number of studentships available | One |
| Application details | Deadline for applications: 09 May 2025  Test for shortlisting the candidates: 15 May 2025  Notification of qualified candidates for proposal submission: 20 May 2025  Deadline for submission of proposals in the specified format/template: 5th June 2025  Notification of shortlisted candidates for the interview (KMU and Keele Panel): 25th June 2025  Interview of the shortlisted candidates: First week of July 2025 (TBC).  Notification of the qualified candidate and admission offer: Mid or end of July 2025 (TBC) |
| Contact for further information and to whom  Applications will be sent | Informal enquires about the project should be made to:  Email Address : [phdadmission269@gmail.com](mailto:phdadmission269@gmail.com) |

**Candidate profile**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications, Experience and Skills** | Degree in Medicine.  FCPS or equivalent in Psychiatry or have completed FCPS training in psychiatry  Ability to organise and manage own workload. | Master’s degree in the field of Global Health, Public Health, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Health Research \ PMDC/HEC-recognized university/institution  Experience in clinical research in mental health research  Experience of writing up research |
| **Attitude and**  **Personality** | Applicants must be highly self-motivated, goal-oriented and will be expected to troubleshoot problems and drive the project forward.  Applicants must have the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.  Desire to learn new skills relevant to the project | Excellent written and verbal communication skills and organisational skills  Willingness to take and give advice |

Keele University values diversity and is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity. In support of these commitments, Keele University particularly welcomes applications from women and from individuals of black and ethnic minority backgrounds for this post. More information is available on these web pages:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/equalitydiversity/>

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/athenaswan/> <https://www.keele.ac.uk/raceequalitycharter/disabilityconfident/>

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Supervisory Team: Principal Supervisor: Prof Saeed Farooq**

**Co-Supervisors: To be confirmed later**

**Project Title:** **Translating evidence for Early Intervention in Psychosis in Low and Lower-Middle Countries LMICs: Implementation and Evaluation**

In high-income countries, early intervention in psychosis (EIP) services provide treatment for psychosis as early as possible. These services can significantly improve outcomes, including longer time in employment, less hospitalisation and better overall functioning. However, these services rarely exist in low- and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs). The TRANSLATE programme aims to develop and establish EIP services in Pakistan and Sri Lanka and assess whether the services can help to improve the health outcomes among people with first-episode psychosis (FEP). It also aims to understand the factors that are associated with treatment-resistant schizophrenia (TRS) and whether we can develop a tool that can predict its likelihood.

**TRANSLATE** is an applied health research programme and has a pragmatic mixed-methods implementation and evaluation design. The research is funded as part of the NIHR Global Research Professorship award to Prof. Saeed Farooq who will be the Principal Supervisor for this PhD.

The studentship will provide an excellent opportunity for a suitable candidate to develop expertise in this area of research and to work closely with researchers and clinicians at Khyber Medical University Pakistan and Keele University UK. We expect the research to address pertinent research questions that will likely lead to patient benefit and capacity building in Low and Middle Countries. The students will be based at the Khyber Medical University Pakistan. However, there will be the occasional need to attend training at Keele University campus. Students will make an online application and follow the initial screening/test process at KMU. The successful candidates at the first stage will be required to develop a research proposal and present their own research ideas at the second stage (interview) of the selection process.

**For any further information or an informal discussion about the project, please contact Dr. Muhammad Firaz Khan** (Director, Institute of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences, Khyber Medical University, Peshawar) [drfiraz786@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:drfiraz786@yahoo.co.uk)