



Job Description

**Internship - Dementia Research
(NIHR ARC North Thames)**

Grade & salary: 6, salary includes London allowance

Department: Primary Care and Population Health

Location: Royal Free Campus, London

Reports to:

Study Principal Investigator *Dr. Kumud Kantilal*

Context

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) North Thames is offering an internship in dementia research, as part of a national NIHR ARC initiative to support people interested in developing a career in dementia research.

This is an exciting opportunity to work closely with, and learn from, experienced dementia researchers in an academic research setting. Interns will have access to the programme of training and events offered by the ARC North Thames Academy, in addition to training opportunities provided by their host departments.

Applicants should have at least a BSc in a relevant social science subject (e.g. psychology or related health degree (MSc is preferable), experience in qualitative research methods, good academic writing skills and interest/experience in health care/dementia. The internship is available from 1 June 2025 until March 2026, working one-two days/week for approximately six months. The post will be based in the Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health and the intern is expected to work on site at least 50% of their time.

NIHR ARC North Thames

[NIHR ARC North Thames](#) is a partnership of over 40 organisations from across North Central and North East London, Essex, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. These organisations include leading universities, the NHS, councils, patients, communities, charities and industry who share a commitment to improving health and social care services, and people's health. Working together, we identify the key health and care problems facing organisations in our partnership, design innovative research in response and rapidly put findings into practice across our region and beyond.

Study Details: [Intern] (PI: Dr. Kumud Kantilal).

Almost 80% of people living with dementia also have at least one other long-term health condition. Managing multiple health conditions is challenging due to problems with memory, thinking, and communication in the person with dementia. Ongoing management often requires support from family carers. But people with dementia and their carers often struggle to get adequate treatment and support because services are organised around one condition. Inadequate management of one condition could negatively impact other conditions and overall health and wellbeing. For example, poorly controlled type 2 diabetes could lead to progression of dementia. While primary care teams are integral to dementia care, it is unclear how services are adapted to holistically manage and support people living with dementia alongside other health conditions.

The intern will be part of the project exploring delivery of personalised care in primary care in people living with dementia alongside other conditions. In people living with dementia alongside other conditions, this project

aims to explore service adaptations for delivering personalised care, experiences and care needs of people from South Asian backgrounds and the role of primary care in addressing any unmet care needs. The project involves a review of the evidence, preparing ethics applications, contributing to writing protocols, reports, and publications, recruiting participants, and conducting semi-structured interviews and qualitative analysis.

Learning and development opportunity

The intern will gain:

- Qualitative analysis skills
- Academic writing skills (e.g., ethics applications, protocols, peer-review publications)
- Experience in working directly with the PI on dementia research
- Interpersonal and communication skills
- An opportunity to develop their own research ideas

Duties and responsibilities

- Identify and collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including people with dementia and/or their carers
- Contribute to writing of protocol, reports, peer-reviewed publications, and other outputs.
- Ensure all appropriate ethical clearance, research governance approvals, and data sharing agreements are obtained and followed
- Contribute to recruiting participants
- Conduct qualitative interviews and analyses
- Ensure confidentiality on all matters and information obtained

Other duties:

- General administrative duties including setting up meetings, preparing agendas and minute taking
- Co-ordinate own work with others to avoid conflict or duplication
- The post-holder will actively follow UCL policies including Equal Opportunities and Race Equality policies
- To maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations
- Carrying out duties in a resource-efficient way and actively support UCL's Sustainability Strategy

Person Specification

Note to applicant: copy and paste the following criteria into a "Statement in support of your application" and describe underneath each criteria how you meet it, giving examples. You will be scored on how you meet each criteria.

| Essential Criteria | Assessment method (Application/Interview) |
|--|--|
| Qualifications, experience and knowledge | |
| BSc in a relevant social science subject (e.g. psychology or related health degree) | Application |
| Experience in qualitative research methods | Application |
| Basic knowledge of dementia care /dementia research | Application/interview |
| Confident to work collaboratively, flexibly and effectively with colleagues | Application/interview |
| Skills and abilities | |
| Fluency in English and communication skills | Application/interview |
| Excellent interpersonal and networking skills as well as the ability to liaise effectively with people at all levels | Application/interview |

| Essential Criteria | Assessment method (Application/Interview) |
|--|--|
| Computer literate with well-developed IT skills (Office, email, internet) | Application |
| The ability to collect and analyse data, use spreadsheets, and create graphic presentations | Application/interview |
| Recognise the importance of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in higher education/research | Application/interview |
| Proven ability to prioritise work under pressure of competing demands to tight deadlines, at the same time maintaining high standards. | Application/interview |
| Strong analytical and organisational skills | Application/interview |
| Desirable Criteria | |
| MSc in psychology or related health subject | Application |
| Experience in dementia research or practice | Application/interview |

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health

The UCL Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health at UCL is part of the Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care and is co-led by Professor Greta Rait and Professor Kate Walters. We undertake world-leading research in primary care, addressing the management and prevention of disease in high-priority areas of health. We deliver high-quality teaching in primary care and population health in a range of health and community settings.

Mission:

- To undertake excellent research that is clinically relevant and impacts on the health of individuals and populations;
- To use our research, teaching and innovation to impact on health system improvement and service redesign;
- To work in partnership with people who use services, practitioners across the health and social care sectors, policy makers and other stakeholders relevant to increasing the impact of academic activities;
- To provide excellent teaching in primary care, population health and research methods;
- To strengthen the discipline of general practice through leadership in research, teaching and clinical practice;
- To foster professional development in all members to enable each individual to reach their full potential;

In order to do this we:

- Carry out all phases of clinical research from epidemiology and qualitative fieldwork through to intervention development, evaluation, implementation and translational research, as well as methodological research and development;
- Work in multi-disciplinary teams, bringing together clinicians, scientists, patients and public with a wide range of methodological skills and expertise;
- Foster excellent communication within the Department, across workgroups and disciplines, and with local, national and international colleagues and organisations;
- Foster a learning environment where students (MB BS, BSc, MSc, MD, PhD), researchers, teachers and administrators are all supported in learning and continuing professional development;
- Invest in the career development of all of our staff;
- Promote an open, friendly, diverse and inclusive working environment.

PCPH is a member of the prestigious NIHR School for Primary Care Research.

How to Apply

Please send a CV, details of at least two referees (one should be a recent line manager), plus covering letter clearly stating how you meet the criteria in the person specification, to arc.norththames@ucl.ac.uk by 30 May 2025.

If you have any informal queries about the post, please contact Dr. Kumud Kantilal: kumud.kantilal@ucl.ac.uk