NIHR | Applied Research Collaboration

NIHR ARC East of England Directory of Supervisors

Research and Impact Fellowship Programme 2027-28

Supervisor Contact Directory

This directory provides information about academic staff from our partner universities who have expressed an interest in supervising incoming Research and Impact Fellows. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact potential supervisors when developing their fellowship proposals.

Each profile includes a brief overview of the supervisor's expertise and a link to their university profile page, where you can learn more about their research, experience, and areas of interest. We encourage you to explore these profiles to identify supervisors who may be the best fit for your proposed project.

Applicants to the **Impact Fellowship** are also required to identify an Impact Advisor, who will work alongside the academic supervisor as part of the supervisory team. To connect with an Impact Advisor, please contact:

Ben Jackson – ben.jackson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk
Dr Jyothika Kumar – jyothika.kumar@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Engaging with both an academic supervisor and an Impact Advisor early in the application process can help strengthen your proposal and ensure that your project is both competitive and impactful.

Please note that this directory is not exhaustive. Additional supervisors may be available through our partner organisations, including: Anglia Ruskin University, University of Cambridge, University of East Anglia, University of Essex, and University of Hertfordshire.

PhD Supervision Availability
You may wish to consider applying for external funding to undertake a PhD following completion of the fellowship programme. Within each supervisor profile, you will find information on their availability for PhD supervision:

- **Yes** – the supervisor may be available to provide PhD supervision beyond the fellowship programme.
- **Yes (secondary)** – the supervisor may be available as a secondary PhD supervisor but is not available to act as the primary supervisor.

If you have any questions, please contact arceoe.rcd@uea.ac.uk

Professor Laura Abbott

University: University of Hertfordshire

Email: l.abbott@herts.ac.uk

Profile: https://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/en/persons/laura-abbott/

Expertise: Pregnancy, childbirth and motherhood within the criminal justice system, particularly the experiences of pregnant women and mothers in prison. My work explores maternal and infant health, trauma, separation, safeguarding, perinatal mental health, and the impact of imprisonment on family relationships. I have particular expertise in qualitative and participatory methodologies, including lived-experience collaboration and co-produced research with women affected by the prison system. My research also examines institutional responses to vulnerability, inequalities in maternity care, and the role of midwifery within custodial settings. I work closely with third-sector organisations, practitioners and policymakers, and my research has informed policy, professional education and practice relating to prison healthcare, perinatal support, and maternal justice.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Naim Abdulmohdi

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: naim.abdulmohdi@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/naim-abdulmohdi

Expertise: Critical care nursing, patient safety, workforce, AI and digital health, clinical decision-making and simulation. Interdisciplinary research using innovative technologies and evidence-based approaches to improve healthcare education, clinical practice and patient outcomes. Methodological expertise in mixed/multi-methods, experimental, survey, feasibility, and qualitative research. Supervises doctoral and other research projects across digital health, workforce, patient safety, and quality improvement.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Oladapo Akinlotan

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Oladapo.akinlotan@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/oladapo-akinlotan

Expertise: Mental health nursing, safety on psychiatric wards/hospitals, mental health and wellbeing in higher education, healthcare workforce and among black and minority ethnic groups. Qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods and systematic review methodologies.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Hussein Al-Ali

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: hussein.al-ali@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/hussein-al-ali

Expertise: I am a cancer researcher specialising in translational oncology, metastasis characterisation, and advanced cellular phenotyping and imaging. My research focuses on identifying aggressive and treatment-resistant cancer cell populations using imaging flow cytometry (IFC) and high-content imaging classification. My team and I can provide extensive support with machine learning-based analysis of complex single-cell datasets. I also offer strong links to industry through established collaborations with several biotech partners to investigate novel anti-cancer therapies, drug response, biomarker discovery, and multiparametric data analysis. My work integrates cancer biology with computational approaches to support precision oncology and biomarker-driven diagnostics and therapeutic development.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Suzana Almoosawi

University: University of East Anglia

Email: s.al-moosawi@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/suzana-almoosawi/

Expertise: My research background spans nutrition, public health, and tobacco harm reduction, with a strong record in analysing large-scale surveys and epidemiological datasets to generate evidence for policy and practice. My work has focused on understanding how lifestyle behaviours influence health outcomes across the life course. I have conducted research in chrononutrition, examining the impact of meal timing and eating patterns on health, and have investigated school food environments to identify opportunities for improving nutritional status among children. I have also contributed to the design, implementation, and evaluation of dietary interventions aimed at improving cardiometabolic health outcomes. In tobacco harm reduction, I have explored smoking and nicotine-use behaviours, and the population health implications of alternative nicotine products.

Dr Esther Abimbola Ariyo

University: University of Essex

Email: esther.ariyo@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/ARIYO85409/Esther-Ariyo

Expertise: My key research area is children's mental health. My research on children's mental health revolves around children in care, immigrant children, nutrition, social determinants of children's mental health including family system and parenting.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Tamara Backhouse

University: University of East Anglia

Email: Tamara.Backhouse@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/tamara-backhouse/

Expertise: Dementia care, social care, care homes, personal care assistance, patient hygiene, home care. Qualitative methods, scoping and systematic reviews, surveys.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Professor Andrew Bateman

University: University of Essex

Email: a.bateman@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/BATEM29808/Andrew-Bateman

Expertise: Neurological rehabilitation research and in particular, technology enabled rehabilitation are of particular interest. As a Chartered Physiotherapist I am comfortable supporting any aspect within scope of practice of this profession. The funding from the NIHR Brain Injury Social Care Incubator means that topics relevant to marginalised groups are at the front of my mind this year, for example the intersections of brain injury and homelessness, refugee and asylum seekers, coastal inequalities, gendered violence, and justice system involvement. But I am keen to engage with a wide range of topics that are part of daily clinical academic life of Allied Health Professionals and Clinical Psychologists. With a strong history of NHS leadership and NIHR funding pathways, and an interest in coaching and quality improvement for impact I'm always happy to discuss ideas.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Gavin Bowen-Metcalf

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: gavin.bowen-metcalf@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/gavin-bowen-metcalf

Expertise: Non-coding RNAs, e.g. microRNAs, and their roles in cancer development, spread, and therapeutic resistance. Neuro-Oncology diagnostic inertia, with a particular interest in Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and Neurological Tumours. Natural cancer therapeutics. Identification of novel cancer drug targets. Cell signalling pathways and their roles in cancer progression.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Ben Bowers

University: University of Cambridge

Email: bb527@medschl.cam.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/staff/dr-ben-bowers

Expertise: Ben is an internationally recognised clinical academic community nurse. He is an Assistant Professor of Primary Care, University of Cambridge, and Co-Lead for the ARC Palliative and End-of-life Care Theme. Ben leads a programme of interdisciplinary research focused on improving the care of patients dying at home. Ben's areas of expertise include: community-based palliative and end of life care; dying care, including symptom management; patient and families experiences of end-of-life care; healthcare systems design, using engineering approaches; human factors in healthcare; integrated care; primary care workforce; mixed-methods and qualitative research.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Katherine Brown

University: University of Hertfordshire

Email: k.brown25@herts.ac.uk

Profile: https://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/en/persons/katherine-brown/

Expertise: Katherine has a strong track record of leading research in the development and evaluation of behaviour change interventions targeted at preventive health behaviours and addressing major public health challenges. These include sexual health, addressing unhealthy weight, smoking cessation, physical activity, gender-based violence, and workplace health and wellbeing, amongst others. She spent over eight years working in an embedded role at Public Health Warwickshire leading public health research and evaluation. Applications of digital health are a strong feature of her work as is working with communities and end-users on co-production and co-design of interventions.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Luca Buzzatti

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: luca.buzzatti@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/luca-buzzatti

Expertise: Musculoskeletal rehabilitation pre- and post-total knee and hip arthroplasty rehabilitation. Evidence synthesis (systematic review and meta-analysis); Medical Statistics and Quantitative Analysis; Dynamic CT Image motion analysis.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Katie Chadd

University: University of Essex

Email: katie.chadd@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/CHADD43205/Katie-Chadd

Expertise: Speech and language therapy, stroke, aphasia, evidence-based practice, critical knowledge production, clinical service delivery and practice models, health inequalities, workforce research. Mixed-methods, quantitative research, grounded theory and thematic analysis, patient voice.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Eleanor Chatburn

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: eleanor.chatburn@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/eleanor-chatburn

Expertise: I am a registered clinical psychologist and mental health researcher specialising in child and youth mental health. At ARU, I am a Senior Lecturer in Clinical Psychology where I run the MSc in Clinical Child Psychology course and I also work clinically in a student mental health service at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust. I also hold registration as CBT therapist. My research interests include: child and adolescent mental health, global mental health and low- and middle-income country contexts, CBT with children and young people, mental health and social media, quality and safety of mental health care. My methodological expertise includes: qualitative methods, mixed methods, co-production approaches, Delphi group consensus methods, scoping and systematic reviews.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr I-Shuo Chen

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: i-shuo.chen@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/i-shuo-chen

Expertise: My research focuses on organisational behaviour, occupational health psychology, HRM, digital work and wellbeing. I specialise in work engagement, employee wellbeing, work–home and non-work resource dynamics, leisure crafting, creativity and innovation, ageing workers, cognitive load, and the effects of AI and emerging technologies on work, health and sustainable innovation. Methodologically, I have expertise in quantitative research design, including diary studies, multi-wave and multi-source field studies, experimental and quasi-experimental designs, multi-level modelling, and mediation/moderation analysis. As Faculty Lead for Health Performance and Wellbeing at ARU, I can support fellows developing rigorous, practice-relevant applied health and social care research.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Havovi Chichger

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: havovi.chichger@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/havovi-chichger

Expertise: Prof Chichger joined the Cardiovascular Research Group at Anglia Ruskin University in 2015. She has set up a patient-oriented research programme investigating the molecular mechanisms which underlie vascular function in settings of inflammation and cardiovascular disorders. Her other research areas include understanding the molecular basis of diabetic complications and the impact of dietary and environmental factors on human health.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Jane Cross

University: University of East Anglia

Email: j.cross@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/jane-cross/

Expertise: Methodologically, I do complex intervention development and evaluation in mixed methods trials. I'm interested in people's experiences of health and illness, stories and co-design to inform intervention development and evaluation. Implementation studies are also of particular interest as implementation is so critical both for research findings but also during trials to understand results. Recent PhD students have done studies involving collaborating with people with dementia to understand their experiences of using technology to understand whether a digital intervention could provide useful support. Another has developed a communication tool for use in critical care where language and culture impacts on communication.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Katherine Deane

University: University of East Anglia

Email: k.deane@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/katherine-deane/

Expertise: Research topics: Disability access, health inequalities, inclusive research and healthcare, management of long term conditions and disabilities, behaviour change, online interventions, medication and dietary adherence. Methods: quantitative and mixed methods, surveys, Delphi surveys, concept mapping, priority setting partnerships, reflective thematic analysis of interviews, randomised controlled trials, systematic reviews, scoping reviews, appreciative inquiry.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Sanjoy Deb

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: sanjoy.deb@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/sanjoy-deb

Expertise: My research covers nutrition science and public health, with a focus on addressing unmet nutritional needs in underserved and vulnerable populations. This includes addressing unmet nutritional support for stroke survivors in community settings, where evidence-based guidance remains limited and practice is inconsistent (see: doi.org/10.3389/fstro.2026.1733430). I also focus on early years nutrition, investigating how nutritional knowledge and practice are embedded within early childhood education settings to support families and children. Methodologically, I use a mixed-methods approach and bring experience of co-producing research with patients, public and local authority/public health partners. I am particularly interested in supervising fellows whose work bridges nutrition science and real-world community or clinical practice.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Shabnam Sadeghi Esfahlani

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: shabnam.sadeghi-esfahlani@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/shabnam-sadeghi-esfahlani

Expertise: My research focuses on the intersection of Virtual Reality (VR), gamification, robotics, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for healthcare, education, and autonomous systems. I specialise in human-centred AI, immersive technologies for rehabilitation, assistive robotics, and intelligent autonomous systems, with applications in rehabilitation, inclusive STEM education, and UAV/drone operations. My methodological expertise includes machine learning, reinforcement learning, computer vision, human-robot interaction, digital twins, simulation modelling, and optimisation-based control systems. My work involves interdisciplinary research design, user-centred co-design, experimental validation, and translational innovation with industry and healthcare partners.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Simon Etkind

University: University of Cambridge

Email: sde23@medschl.cam.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/staff/dr-simon-noah-etkind

Expertise: I'm a clinical academic working in palliative care. Interested in health services research, management of clinical uncertainty and models of care for advance multimorbidity and frailty. Mixed-methods research including evidence syntheses, qualitative research and observational quantitative studies. Happy to discuss any projects related to palliative care or advanced illness.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Natasha Felles

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Natasha.Felles@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/natasha-felles

Expertise: My research focuses on acquired brain injury (ABI), particularly traumatic brain injury (TBI), neurorehabilitation, and psychological adjustment following neurological injury. I am interested in the experiences of individuals, families, partners, and caregivers affected by brain injury, including wellbeing, relationships, caregiving, and support needs. My work aims to improve outcomes through the development of family-centred interventions and support resources. Methodologically, I have expertise in mixed-methods research, including qualitative interviews, focus groups, survey research, co-production, intervention development, questionnaire development, and implementation research. My work spans clinical psychology, neuropsychology, rehabilitation, and applied health research, with a focus on informing clinical practice and service development.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Ana Olea Fernandez

University: University of Essex

Email: ao19443@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/OLEAF85101/Ana-Olea%20Fernandez

Expertise: I favour qualitative research, with a preference for co-production and participatory action research, and reflexive thematic analysis. My research areas include human rights, ethical decision-making, critical psychiatry, children's social work, and the intersection between parenting and state intervention.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Carole Gardener

University: University of East Anglia

Email: Carole.Gardener@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/carole-gardener/

Expertise: Key areas of research interest include the delivery of holistic and person-centred care within supportive and palliative healthcare, intervention development, informal carers (including young carers) and prison healthcare. Methodological expertise includes qualitative and multi-method approaches. Background of working within social care and the voluntary sector within organisations focused on mental health, homelessness and people with learning disabilities.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Sharon Geva

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: sharon.geva@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/science-and-engineering/research/institutes-and-groups/stroke-and-brain-injury

Expertise: I am a cognitive neuroscientist with experience in neuropsychological testing and neuroimaging. I study cognitive outcome following brain damage, with a focus on the way we can provide individuals with accurate and meaningful diagnosis and prognosis. I have worked with both children and adults with acquired brain damage due to various aetiologies. My studies focus on language (aphasia) and memory (amnesia) impairments, and the way these processes interact with other cognitive functions (for example, executive functions or mental imagery). Finally, I use structural and functional MRI to determine the neural mechanisms underlying cognitive function, cognitive impairments, and recovery processes.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Jonathan Goodman

University: University of Cambridge

Email: jrg74@cam.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.cph.cam.ac.uk/staff/jonathan-r-goodman

Expertise: I am a social scientist who uses models from the evolutionary social sciences to help solve issues of trust in the healthcare setting. I am involved in the design and management of interdisciplinary projects that aim to use data more effectively to reduce health inequality. My work focuses broadly on issues of trust and inequality in health. I primarily use quantitative methods, including agent-based modelling, survey work, and online experiments.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Robert Goudie

University: University of Cambridge

Email: robert.goudie@mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/staff/robert-goudie

Expertise: I lead a research group at the MRC Biostatistics Unit that working on hospital electronic health record (EHR) data and methods for combining data sources. In collaboration with health professionals from several specialties, my group's work using hospital EHR has aimed to either describe current trajectories, predict patients' future outcomes/trajectories, or estimate effects of interventions (treatments/service re-design/etc). Evaluation of healthcare delivery methods to guide improvements has been a recent focus including (1) studying the effect of continuity of care on hospital inpatients and (2) working with the Cambridge University Hospitals (CUH) Acute Care Strategy team, who are developing new models of care such as moving from hospital to community care. I am also part of the team building the CUH pipeline that provides data to the NHS Eastern England Secure Data Environment.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Robin Gowers

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Robin.Gowers2@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/robin-gowers

Expertise: I can support Fellows by applying economic theory, risk assessment, and innovative modelling to real-world health and social care challenges. My expertise spans sustainable management, macroeconomics, and strategic risk and valuation, allowing me to help applicants identify, assess, and manage enterprise and strategic risks within their projects. Furthermore, I have a track record of leading major funded projects centred on innovation, knowledge exchange, and regional skills needs. Whether your project explores policy implications on delivery, strategic resource valuation, or integrating innovative practices into care environments, I can provide the structured methodology and strategic oversight needed to successfully deliver a high-impact, small-scale project over the 12-month programme.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Toro Graven

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: toro.graven@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://arucdvl.weebly.com/about-us.html

Expertise: My research focuses on understanding how the human senses function both individually and together. Through this work, I hope to contribute to the creation of spaces that promote equal participation, academic success, and social connection for everyone – regardless of sensory ability – in settings such as playgrounds, classrooms, and local coffee shops. I use qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods approaches with participants of all ages, combining speed, accuracy, drawing, and/or think-aloud data. More specifically, I investigate how the sense of touch, hearing, and vision collaborate and interfere with each other when perceiving and processing sensory information. Examples:
https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/oxford-sound-album
https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/smartsense/
https://doi.org/10.3791/59954
Editor-in-Chief: https://journals.sagepub.com/home/JVI

Dr Louisa Haine

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: louisa.haine@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/louisa-haine

Expertise: My main research interests are the enhanced detection and treatment of amblyopia, Vision and ADHD, Visual stress, and the control of binocular single vision in 3D, augmented and virtual reality gaming.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Simon P Hammond

University: University of East Anglia

Email: s.hammond@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/simon-hammond/

Expertise: My research focuses on improving outcomes for children and young people with care-experience. I specialise in the intersection of children's social care, mental health, and digital inclusion, with a focus on care-experienced young people. My work examines how interventions such as life story work and digital technologies can enhance resilience, identity, and well-being. I have led and contributed to interdisciplinary projects exploring support for adolescents in care, including co-designed, low-intensity mental health interventions. Methodologically, I have expertise in qualitative and mixed methods research, including realist evaluation and co-production with young people and practitioners. My work is grounded in applied social psychology and aims to reduce inequalities and improve access to meaningful support.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Nicola Hancock

University: University of East Anglia

Email: n.hancock@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/nicola-hancock/

Expertise: Research and innovation programme/outputs centre on: user-centred design and evaluation of technology-enhanced movement analysis and rehabilitation for people with stroke and other brain injury; co-produced complex interventions and service innovation initiatives in physical stroke and other acquired brain injury rehabilitation.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Annie Heiderscheit

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Annie.Heiderscheit@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/cambridge-institute-for-music-therapy-research

Expertise: Professor Annie Heiderscheit's research focuses on the development, evaluation and implementation of music therapy and music-based interventions to improve health outcomes and wellbeing across diverse clinical populations. Her work spans mental health, eating disorders, substance use disorders, critical and intensive care, transplantation, and trauma-informed care. Methodologically, Professor Heiderscheit employs collaborative interdisciplinary and interprofessional research approaches, including multi-site randomised clinical trials, pilot and feasibility studies, systematic and scoping reviews, survey research, case study methods, arts-based inquiry, and mixed-methods designs. She is also recognised for expertise as a clinical researcher and the translation of research into clinical and training contexts.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Angus Holford

University: University of Essex

Email: ajholf@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/people/ajholf

Expertise: I'm an economist who researches impacts of public health and education interventions on health; for example school food and behaviour policies, local planning rules for the food environment, on health-related behaviours and outcomes. My methodological expertise is in working with administrative or survey data to estimate causal impacts.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Claire Hooks

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: claire.hooks@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/claire-hooks

Expertise: Research interests: substance misuse in pregnancy/women's health and care access; impact of socio-economic deprivation on maternal and infant outcomes; health and healthcare experience and access for military connected women; healthcare education; physiology of birth; inter-professional learning; women's health; health inequalities and stigma; end of life legal decisions involving neonates. Methodological expertise: qualitative methods, case study, mixed-methods.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Gillian Janes

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: gillian.janes@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/gillian-janes

Expertise: Applied research and social care, qualitative focus with some mixed/multi-methods. Topic areas: clinical academic and researcher development, workforce, patient safety, human factors, clinical leadership, leading change and service improvement, including digital leadership and policy development.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Meghana Wadnerkar Kamble

University: University of East Anglia

Email: m.kamble@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/meghana-wadnerkar-kamble/

Expertise: I am an applied developmental psychologist with international experience in paediatric clinical psychology, working at the intersection of developmental science and global health. My research focuses on family-centred interventions for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, aiming to improve developmental, learning, and psychosocial outcomes, particularly in underserved and Global South contexts. Methodologically, I bring expertise in intervention development and evaluation, mixed-methods research, and cross-cultural fieldwork. I collaborate across academic, clinical, and third-sector settings, and supervise doctoral research in developmental psychology and health inequalities. I am a Chartered Psychologist and Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Zarnie Khadjesari

University: University of East Anglia

Email: z.khadjesari@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/zarnie-khadjesari/

Expertise: BSc and MSc in Health Services research at the University of York and PhD in Primary Care and Population Health at University College London. Awarded fellowships from NIHR, King's College London and Cancer Research UK to fund my programme of research on implementing digital interventions for cancer prevention.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Anne Killett

University: University of East Anglia

Email: a.killett@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/anne-killett/

Expertise: Currently researching older adults care, methodological expertise in qualitative research, participatory research and public involvement. Experience in funding applications. Interest in child and family mental health. HCPC registered occupational therapist with interest in supporting AHP clinical academics.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Andrea Knight

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: andrea.knight@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/andrea-knight;
https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrea-knight-1683b9180/

Expertise: My research interests are focused on the innate immunity and the tumour microenvironment in blood cancers, brain tumour glioblastoma and more recently on endometriosis. We study resident and infiltrated immune cells in patients to understand the pathology of the disease and how to improve the therapy outcomes. In parallel, I have been interested in transcription namely in the activation domains of numerous transcription factors that are critically involved in malignancy including the p53, N-Myc and Yamanaka factors.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Chrysi Leliopoulou

University: University of East Anglia

Email: C.Leliopoulou@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/chrysi-leliopoulou/

Expertise: Evidence based clinical practice and assessment; Advanced Clinical Practice; nurses' emotionality, affective wellbeing and communication; equity in mental health and wellbeing; emotional intelligence; affective wellbeing; diagnostic skills; decision-making; motivation in practice education.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Naowarat Lewis

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: naowarat.lewis@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/naowarat-lewis

Expertise: I have a multidisciplinary background in applied statistics, information technology, and educational technology, with research focused on learner engagement, digital learning, and technology-enhanced education. My key research areas include Educational Technology, Educational Pedagogy, and ICT for Development, with particular interest in interactive teaching approaches, video-based learning, gamification, and digital learning environments to improve student achievement and engagement in higher education. I have developed video-based learning resources for teaching statistics to midwifery students to support accessibility and understanding of quantitative concepts. My methodological interests include quantitative research, statistical analysis, survey design, and mixed-methods research.

Dr Roslyn Mattukoyya

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Roslyn.Mattukoyya@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/roslyn-mattukoyya

Expertise: Workforce, Organisational behaviour, Structural empowerment, Patient safety
Internationally educated nurses' experiences in host countries. Assertive communication behaviours. International students' experiences within HEI in host countries.

I have received nominations, awards, and professional recognition for my contributions in these areas of research.

Methodological Expertise:
Quantitative research
Qualitative research
Mixed methods research

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Imko Meyenburg

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: imko.meyenburg@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/imko-meyenburg

Expertise: Imko's research spans political economy, the philosophy and history of economic thought, and social ontology, with a particular focus on language and populism. A central application of his work is healthcare, examining provision, access, equity, and workforce planning from a pluralist, heterodox perspective grounded in the philosophy of economics.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Sharon Morein

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: sharon.morein@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/science-and-engineering/research/institutes-and-groups/the-aru-possessions-and-hoarding-collective

Expertise: My interests span mental health (including compulsive and impulsive behaviours) and how it can interact with our relationships with possessions and in turn our physical environment. For example problem hoarding and hoarding disorder involve maladaptive attachments to objects and can result in considerable clutter in the home and potential risks. Effective support faces considerable challenges for the individual, frontline professionals, a large range of services and policy makers. I employ a range of quantitative and qualitative methodological approaches to advance understanding and develop sustainable, effective person-centred practices for everyone involved.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Anne Mumbi

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: anne.mumbi@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/anne-mumbi

Expertise: Dr Anne Wambui Mumbi research spans a broad area with interdisciplinary expertise spanning sustainability, agri-food systems, environmental policy, agri-tech, SDGs and social science. She is an experienced lecturer and researcher with international academic experience across the UK, Europe, Asia, and Africa. She also holds an Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. Her academic career has developed at the intersection of agri-food systems, food security, economics, and social science, with a strong focus on sustainability, environmental policy, and agri-food systems. She has contributed to international research projects, published extensively in high-impact journals, and regularly presents at international conferences. Her work is grounded in applied, interdisciplinary research with policy and societal relevance.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Professor Mohammad Najlah

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: Mohammad.najlah@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/mohammad-najlah

Expertise: I am a Professor of Pharmaceutics and Nanomedicine with expertise in applied pharmaceutical research, drug delivery, formulation science and health technology innovation. My research translates scientific advances into practical interventions to improve medicine use, treatment delivery and patient outcomes. Key areas include liposomal and nanoparticle delivery systems, medicines formulation, medicine optimisation, pharmaceutical quality, and implementation of health technologies. I have extensive experience in collaborative translational research, supporting projects from evidence generation to evaluation and impact. I am interested in supervising applied projects involving medicines, pharmacy practice, formulation or delivery challenges, healthcare innovation, service improvement, evidence implementation or knowledge mobilisation, with potential progression to doctoral research.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Craig Owen

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: craig.owen@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/craig-owen

Expertise: I specialise in gender studies and qualitative research, with expertise in men's health and masculinities. Grounded in critical psychology, my work examines how gender is constructed, performed, and reproduced across cultural, social and media contexts. I am committed to challenging inequitable practices and advancing inclusive, feminist-informed approaches. My research includes published work on masculinity in dance, men's health, men's sexual experiences, and media representations of men's bodies. I have also analysed representations of women in media and published methodological guidance on qualitative research. My current research analyses parenting manuals to understand how they advise parents on raising feminist sons. I am also applying for PhD funding to enhance men's engagement with prostate health checks, building on initiatives delivered through a local football club.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Steven Owen

University: University of Hertfordshire

Email: s.owen4@herts.ac.uk

Profile: https://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/en/persons/steven-owen/

Expertise: My research expertise is in place-based ageing, community wellbeing, and support for people living with long-term conditions and unpaid carers. I have particular interests in adult social care, wellbeing in later life, and the experiences of underserved groups. My methodological expertise is primarily qualitative and participatory, including co-production, interviews, focus groups, and applied research in community and social care settings. I am committed to meaningful public involvement and to embedding lived experience within the research process. I have contributed to cross-institutional and multi-partner research, including projects exploring digital technologies to support older adults' social wellbeing and the co-production of dementia-friendly innovations in community and public settings.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Ellice Parkinson

Organisation: Health Innovation East

Email: ellice.parkinson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/ellice-parkinson/

Expertise: I am a mixed-methods dementia care researcher and healthcare evaluator. I work at Health Innovation East in the Real world Evaluation team designing and delivering evaluations of healthcare innovation. I have taught at UEA on qualitative research methods and have expertise in ethnography. I have designed and led many evidence reviews, including systematic reviews, scoping reviews and umbrella reviews.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Professor David Pearson

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: david.pearson@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/david-pearson

Expertise: I am Professor of Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge. I lead the Brain, Body, and Mind research group as part of ARU's Research Centre for Better Living. I have experience working in the voluntary sector with neurodivergent adults, as well as serving as a nursing assistant in a head injury rehabilitation ward. My clinically related research interests include mental health, patient and workforce wellbeing, nature-based health interventions, and clinical aspects of memory and mental imagery research. I have expertise in cognitive testing, eye-movement recording, quantitative and mixed-methods research designs, and conducting systematic literature reviews. I have prior experience in supervising ARC research fellowships.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Carl Philpott

University: University of East Anglia

Email: C.Philpott@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/carl-philpott/

Expertise: Rhinosinusitis, smell and taste disorders; clinical trials, epidemiology, systematic reviews, patient advocacy, qualitative research, observational studies.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Nick Pugh

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: np24@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/nicholas-pugh

Expertise: My research predominantly includes the investigation of platelets and platelet signalling cascades during cardiovascular disease and stroke. I have interest in metal ions in biology (calcium, zinc), and how ion concentration is altered during disease, I am interested in autoimmunity, with an ongoing research project in autoimmune responses in thrombocytopenia.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Dan Robbins

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: dan.robbins@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/dan-robbins

Expertise: Dan Robbins conducts research to better understand human function, dysfunction and clinical outcomes through the integration of biomechanics, anatomy, physiology and quantitative health research. Current interests include peripheral vascular science, movement analysis, measurement science and the evaluation of healthcare interventions. Methodological expertise includes clinical trial design, outcome measurement, reliability and agreement studies, statistical modelling and the analysis of complex clinical data. Projects combining biological mechanisms, quantitative methods and clinically relevant questions are particularly well aligned with his supervisory expertise. Research spans both observational and interventional studies, with an emphasis on generating evidence that informs clinical decision-making and improves patient care.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Vikki-Jo Scott

University: University of Essex

Email: v.j.scott@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/SCOTT55207

Expertise: I have a particular interest in Advanced Clinical Practice and healthcare workforce development including continuing professional development and retention of expertise in the workforce. My methodological expertise is in mixed method research.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Professor Grace Spencer

University: Anglia Ruskin University

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Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/grace-spencer

Expertise: Children and young people's health and wellbeing, health promotion, young people with long-term conditions, social inclusion. Qualitative and participatory research, research ethics.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Lesley Storey

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: lesley.storey@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/lesley-storey

Expertise: I am a social psychologist with expertise in advanced qualitative expertise. I apply my theoretical and methodological skills to health issues. The majority of my health-based research is in cancer, specifically sarcoma but I have also collaborated with health care professionals in a variety of areas eg paediatric health care. I'm open to discussing a range of topics.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Clare Strongman

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: clare.strongman@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/clare-strongman

Expertise: My background comes from maths and computing via sports science and physical activity, and I was previously involved with GP referral schemes and the local falls prevention services as a practitioner within the community. I also work with sight loss charities such as CamSight, RNIB and Guide Dogs delivering training and physical activity interventions. My research is mixed methods, covering diverse areas such as human movement variability, vision science, quantitative biomechanics, but also creative qualitative methods, PPIE, and lived experiences of people with disabilities.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Haniya Syed

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: haniya.syed@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/haniya-zehra-syed

Expertise: Public Health; Women's Health; Climate Impact on Health; Dental Public Health; Dentistry.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes (secondary)

Dr Claire Thompson

University: University of Hertfordshire

Email: c.thompson25@herts.ac.uk

Profile: https://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/en/persons/claire-thompson/

Expertise: I am a qualitative researcher with interests in: food poverty; institutional food; food and alcohol environments; lived experiences of austerity and welfare reform; applied health and social care research with local partners; and community responses to health inequalities.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Jennifer Todd

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: jennifer.todd@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/jennifer-todd

Expertise: I am interested in bodily awareness and its impact on wellbeing, particularly in conditions that primarily affect women. I am currently involved in projects spanning interoception, body image, breast health, breastfeeding, fibromyalgia, pain associated with pelvic mesh implants, and women's health more broadly. I am also an experienced psychometrician with expertise in questionnaire development, validation and adaptation.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Danielle Tucker

University: University of Essex

Email: dtucker@essex.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/TUCKE64400/Danielle-Tucker

Expertise: Danielle's research interests focus on evaluating complex change management initiatives for public sector organisations (including Police, Local Authority, Local Government, NHS Trusts and health and social care providers), with particular interest in information flows across organisational boundaries, partnership working and collaborative arrangements. She supports strategic change and transformation programmes in local government and health and social care services, and has led two Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) awards with Essex-based charities Mid and North East Essex Mind and Community 360, supporting innovation and organisational development within the voluntary and community sector.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Juliet Usher-Smith

University: University of Cambridge

Email: jau20@cam.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/staff/dr-juliet-usher-smith

Expertise: My research focuses on optimising the implementation of risk stratified medicine to promote equitable early detection of cancer and cardiovascular disease. This includes the co-design and implementation of risk-based interventions, and the use of a range of applied research methods to assess the potential impact on health and behavioural outcomes.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Ian van der Linde

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: ian.vanderlinde@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://neuroscience.cam.ac.uk/member/ianvdl/

Expertise: I would be interested in supervising Fellows in the areas of neuropsychological test development (for instance, for premorbid intelligence estimation or the screening of mild cognitive impairment/dementia), including the use of computational/artificial intelligence/machine learning methods for this purpose.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Adam Wagner

University: University of East Anglia

Email: adam.wagner@uea.ac.uk

Profile: https://research-portal.uea.ac.uk/en/persons/adam-wagner/
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9101-3477

Expertise: Health economist and statistician, working in trials and applied evaluations. Broadly agnostic to clinical area, but have researched in mental health (including learning disabilities, autism and acquired brain injury) and cystic fibrosis, among other areas.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Susan Walker

University: Anglia Ruskin University

Email: susan.walker@aru.ac.uk

Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/susan-walker

Expertise: Research areas are: contraception; sexual health; health behaviours, attitudes and experiences; social factors affecting health and health inequalities; experiences of primary care. I can supervise qualitative and quantitative projects.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr ZhiMin Xiao

University: University of Essex

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Profile: https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/xiaoz12901/zhimin-xiao

Expertise: Children and young people have always been at the heart of ZhiMin's research, and he often studies them with a big heart, in different contexts, such as online, schools, and communities. Currently assessing the impact of entertainment for seriously ill children in some of the major children's hospitals in England, ZhiMin is also interested in the school lives of children and young people caught up in family law court proceedings. ZhiMin's methodological interests are primarily in the design, implementation, and evaluation of randomised controlled trials involving children and young people. He collaborates with colleagues from multiple disciplines and institutions in order to solve some methodological problems associated with the evaluation of policy interventions, for instance, evidence that is non-actionable.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

Dr Tabish Zaman

University: Anglia Ruskin University

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Profile: https://www.aru.ac.uk/people/tabish-zaman

Expertise: My research expertise centres on innovation adoption, digital transformation, and the socio-cognitive impact of technology within healthcare and organisational contexts. I am interested in how healthcare professionals adapt to technological change, including the influence of digital systems on professional identity, workforce practices, and service delivery. My research explores the behavioural, organisational, and human dimensions of innovation implementation, particularly within complex and resource-constrained environments. Methodologically, I specialise in qualitative and interpretivist approaches, including semi-structured interviews, focus groups, thematic analysis, and constructivist grounded theory. I also support interdisciplinary applied research linked to workforce resilience, organisational change, and evidence-based practice across health and social care settings.

PhD Supervision Availability: Yes

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