

NIHR ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship



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Academic Career Development Lead

Associate Professor in Dementia and Complexity in Later Life

NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) East of England

- NIHR has confirmed five-year funding for 10 NIHR ARCs, starting **April 2026**.
- **ARC East of England** is one of the funded ARCs.
- Collaborative partnerships: universities, NHS trusts, local authorities, Health Innovation Networks, ICBs, voluntary sector.



Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough
NHS Foundation Trust

Research Capacity Development Team

Our Goal

- To strengthen the ability of individuals, teams, and organisations to **generate, apply, and translate research evidence** to improve:
 - Patient care
 - Service delivery
 - Policy



Research Capacity Development Programme Examples

- Research and impact fellowship
- Researcher-in-residence for social care services
- Seed funding for social care services
- PhD fellowship
- Postdoctoral fellowship
- Senior investigator award

ARC East of England Website

Newsletter sign up

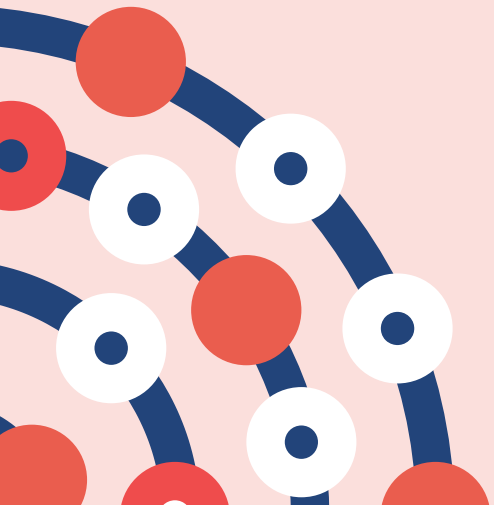
Stay up to date with our regular emails sent straight to your inbox

Sign up now



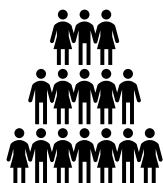


Research and Impact Fellowship



How Does It Work?

Over 170 ARC Fellows
since 2010



Funding

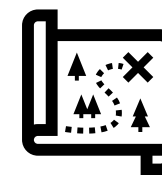
Funding provided to
employing
organisations to cover
1 day/week backfill for
12 months

Max backfill £12,500



Career Progression

- Some progress to PhDs or NIHR Fellowships.
- Most return as experienced clinician/researchers.



Research Fellowship

Purpose

- Understanding the research environment.
- Developing skills in research methodology.
- Focuses on **local applied research and evaluation projects** (including audits).
- Builds **local capacity for evidence-informed practice**.

Impact Fellowship

- **Purpose:** Develop skills to implement and disseminate evidence-based improvements in health and care settings.
- **Implementation:** Apply rigorous evidence, adapting it to new contexts; must provide value to the employing organisation.
- **Knowledge Mobilisation:** Identify evidence-based changes (from research or clinical guidance) and disseminate them for implementation to improve services.

What Should the Project Be – NHS Based Projects

Darzi Review of the NHS

- **Primary prevention** of ill health and prevention of escalation of health needs
- Support for treating people **away from acute care**
- Support for the **health and care workforce**
- Supporting elective care recovery and **supporting people waiting**

Data Analytics
Social Care

What Should the Project Be - NHS Based Projects

10 Year Health Plan for England

Does your project support the NHS transformation?

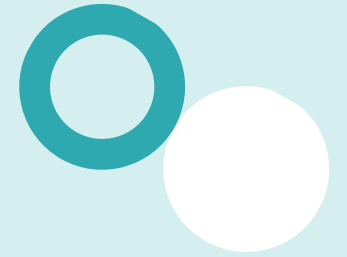
Help drive the shift:

- From hospital to community
- From analogue to digital
- From sickness to prevention



Should I Conduct a Large Project?

- Large-scale projects requiring the **collection of extensive 'new' data are not expected.**
- **Small, well-designed projects** can still produce meaningful results.
- Projects with sound methods that are ***realistically achievable*** are most likely to be funded.
- **Engage early** with academic supervisors (and impact advisors).

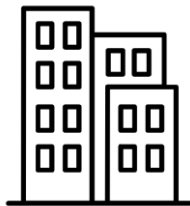


Candidate Eligibility



Candidate Eligibility

Clinicians, health & social care staff, voluntary sector staff and managers in health and social care services



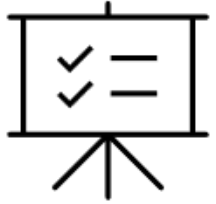
Based in the East of England



Without a PhD
(Healthcare professionals with a clinical doctorate can apply)



Expectations for Fellows



Completion of the project as planned by the end of the fellowship



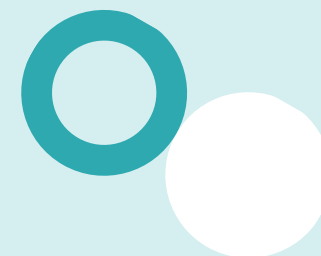
A conference poster at the Fellows' end of programme event



An oral presentation at the Fellows' end of programme event



A case study of your research project (brief written report)



Programme Support



How We Support Fellows

Expert supervision



Teaching programme
Thursdays



Action learning sets



Fellow cohort
presentation
(e.g. 3 min thesis)

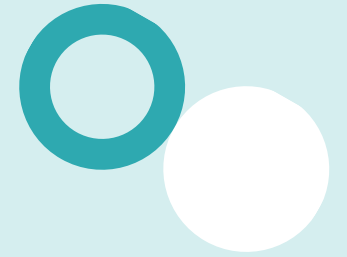


Programme support
(Dedicated coordinator)



Mid and end point
check-ins





Preparing Your Application



Who Should I Talk To?



Our **Directory of Potential Supervisors** can help you identify an appropriate supervisor



Contact our Fellowship Coordinator:
Dr Suzana ALMoosawi
arceoe.rcd@uea.ac.uk



Contact our Impact Advisors:
Ben Jackson
ben.jackson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk



Dr Jyo Kumar
jyothika.kumar@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Who Should I Talk To?



Knowledge mobilisations

Dr Danielle Tucker

Measurement

Dr Adam Wagner

Dr Joanna Anderson

Mental health

Prof Kristy Sanderson

Dr Angus Holford

Dr Emma Kaminskiy

Social care, ageing

Dr Tamara Backhouse

Dr Lida Efstathopoulou

Palliative care

Dr Ben Bowers

Testimonials

ARC Fellowship Programme

Research Fellowship →

Impact Fellowship →

Candidate eligibility →

Programme deliverables →

Programme support for fellows →

Funding and time commitment →

Past fellows projects →

Testimonials →

Watch the video interviews below to hear first-hand experiences from our current fellowship cohort, and learn why they chose to do a research project with us.

- Watch a interview with former ARC East of England Research Fellow, Darryl De Souza, who is Therapy Deputy Manager at Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Click to watch the video →

- Watch a interview with former ARC East of England Research Mental Health Fellow, Loveday Newman, who is a Clinical Psychologist at the Older People's Mental Health team in Cambridge.

Click to watch the video →

- Watch a interview with former ARC East of England Mental Health Fellow.

Past fellows projects

ARC Fellowship Programme

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Past fellows projects →

Testimonials →

FAQ →

Explore examples of previous Research and Impact fellows projects.

Research and Impact fellows 2024 - 2025

View the fellows' research in their end-of-year case studies by accessing the document below:



Apply here



ARC Fellowship Programme

[Research Fellowship](#) →

[Impact Fellowship](#) →

[Candidate eligibility](#) →

[Programme deliverables](#) →

[Programme support for fellows](#) →

[Funding and time commitment](#) →

[Past fellows projects](#) →

[Testimonials](#) →

[FAQ](#) →

[Apply here](#) →

Applications for 2026 are now open. The deadline is 7 January 2026 at 12:00pm.

The programme will begin in late April 2026 and will run every Thursday until March 2027.

Introduction

Webinar: An Introduction to the ARC East of England Fellowship

If you are interested in applying, we highly recommend attending one of the application webinars on the following dates.

Tuesday 4 November 2025, 13:00 - 14:00pm

Monday 17 November 2025, 13:00 - 14:00pm

[Click here to register](#) →

Written applications only (no interviews)

Please note that applications will be assessed solely on the strength of the written

How to Apply

Application forms found on webpage:
Go to the Apply Here section

Documents to complete

You are required to submit:

■ Complete Application Form

Application Form



■ Complete Research Inclusion Form

Research Inclusion Form



■ Your CV

Transparent scoring and extensive
application guidance

Section Four: Project Detail

4.1. Background and rationale (max 500 words)

This section is to describe the background and rationale of the proposed project, addressing the following areas in greater detail than above:

- What is the problem being addressed?
- What is the current evidence, or your experiences, related to this problem?
- Why is this research important in terms of improving the health and/or wellbeing of the public, patients and/ or service-users and health and social care services or the community?
- What is the impact on members of the public, services and society?

If you have read some literature/ papers about this, please make references here.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Scoring Criteria (Score: 0-5)

The panel will consider the following criteria when scoring this question:

- Has the candidate clearly outlined the problem to be addressed?
- Does the candidate's project idea respond to the problem to be addressed?
- If the project is NHS based, does the project align to the research prioritised outline in the [Darzi Review](#)?
- Does the project address a health and/or care need, or improve a health or care service or the community, in the East of England?
- Research fellowship: would this project, when completed, contribute to new knowledge or robust information to change services or practices?

- Application form
- Research inclusion form
- CV

Must be emailed to our
Fellowship Coordinator
E: arceoe.rcd@uea.ac.uk

Application Form

Section One: Application Overview

Section Two: Application Eligibility

Section Three: Applicant Detail

- 3.1. What are your motivations for applying to the fellowship programme and what skills do you hope to gain/ develop? (300 words)
- 3.2. Please describe how your proposed project aligns to your current role/relevant experience. (200 words)
- 3.3. How will your proposed project influence or contribute to a meaningful change in your organisation? (300 words)
- 3.4. How would this fellowship support your career development? (200 words)

Application Form

Section Four: Project Detail

- 4.1. Background and rationale (500 words)
- 4.2. Aims and objectives and methods (300 words)

Section Five: Additional Project Detail

Section Six: Line manager and Organisation Support

Key Dates

28 Nov 2025	Deadline for supervisor identification support (self-contact required afterwards)
19 Dec 2025	Last day for application queries
07 Jan 2026	Application deadline (12 noon)
05 Mar 2026	Current Fellows Cohort Showcase Event
Apr 2026 – Mar 2027	Next Fellows Cohort

Where to Start?

Tips for Successful Applications

- **Application Form:** Download and review *early* to understand what information is required.
- **Supervisors:** Start discussions *now* – successful applicants collaborate *early* to shape strong proposals.
- **Employers:** Line manager sign-off is required – involve them *early* to avoid last-minute delays.

14th Cohort Fellowship Showcase

Join us for a vibrant, in-person event celebrating the achievements of our 14th ARC East of England Fellowship Cohort

- **When:** Thursday 5 March 2026, 10:00 – 16:00
- **Where:** Novotel Cambridge North, 2
Cambridge Square, Cambridge CB4 0AE
- **Free event, with lunch included**



Register Here