

Job Title: Rehabilitation and Frailty Theme Lead for Exeter's NIHR HRC in Sustainable Innovation.

Location: University of Exeter / Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Salary: 1.75PAs

Reporting To: NIHR HRC Director

About the Role

The Rehabilitation and Frailty Theme Lead will provide strategic leadership in advancing research, innovation, and clinical translation within the Rehabilitation and Frailty theme of the NIHR Health Research Centre (HRC). This role is critical in shaping the theme's direction, securing funding, and fostering collaborations across academia, healthcare, and industry.

The postholder will work closely with interdisciplinary teams to develop and implement research initiatives that improve patient outcomes, promote independent living, and optimize healthcare pathways for frail populations.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership: Define and deliver the vision for the Rehabilitation and Frailty theme, ensuring alignment with NIHR and national healthcare priorities.

Research and Innovation: Lead high-impact research projects, securing funding and publishing in high-quality journals.

Collaboration & Stakeholder Engagement: Develop partnerships with NHS organisations, industry, patient groups, and academic institutions.

Translation & Implementation: Facilitate the translation of research findings into clinical practice and policy.

Capacity Building: Support and mentor early-career researchers and clinicians in the field.

Governance & Compliance: Ensure research activities comply with NIHR, MHRA, and NHS regulations.

Essential Criteria

MD/PhD or equivalent experience in a relevant field (e.g., orthopaedics, rehabilitation sciences, geriatrics, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, or public health).

Proven track record in research leadership, securing competitive grants, and publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

Experience in clinical or applied research related to frailty, ageing, or rehabilitation.

Strong network within healthcare, academia, and industry.

Ability to lead multidisciplinary teams and drive innovation in healthcare services.

Interested candidates should submit a CV and a cover letter outlining their experience and vision for the Rehabilitation and Frailty theme.

For informal inquiries, please contact Rebecca Harper, Chief Operating Officer.