

Centre for Health and Life Sciences

Post Graduate Research (PGR) Handbook

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Centre Director:

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Welcome:

Welcome to the research Centre for Health and Life Sciences (CHLS). Together we will undertake interdisciplinary scientific research through the application of both fundamental and translational applications to better understand life from the molecular level through to the whole body. We aim to provide significant industrial and public sector-led advances in knowledge and technology development.

The Centre is an exciting and supportive environment to pursue graduate studies. You will benefit from access to a world-class health and life sciences laboratory environment with industry standard research facilities at your disposal.

Each member of the Centre is on their own journey, including Postgraduate Researchers, but individuals also find support from the larger group as we seek to create opportunities for collaboration and mutual support. You will become a part of a multi-disciplinary team of skilled researchers and become integrated into our collaborative research programmes.

We are eager to work with committed and creative Postgraduate Researchers who will help to deliver the scientific discoveries of the future.

Centre Overview:

The Centre of Health and Life Sciences (CHLS) is one of four Research Centres within the Institute of Health and Wellbeing at Coventry University.

The Centre has considerable expertise across a range of areas, including cell biology, pharmacology, biochemistry, cardiac & metabolic physiology and biotechnology.

The applied nature of the research undertaken by researchers in the Centre involves engagement with partners in the field of Life Sciences and Healthcare, to identify 'real life' problems to provide a solution based approach.

The Centre has considerable strengths in Enterprise and Innovation, including numerous Knowledge Transfer Partnerships funded through Innovate UK, and two research spin-out companies (InoCardia Ltd and OVO Biomanufacturing).

The cutting-edge research undertaken by staff in the Centre influences both practice and policy to improve lives, health and wellbeing within academia, industry and society today.

Our research partners range from local and international global companies, research institutes and universities in the UK and overseas and were the first UK Life Sciences research centre to receive accreditation from the Royal Society of Biology for Doctoral Training.



Facilities:

The Alison Gingell Building:

The Alison Gingell Building is home to world-class, health and life sciences laboratory facilities including confocal microscopy; ICP-mass spectrometry; iDXA scanning; flow cytometry/cell sorter; qPCR; Seahorse mitochondrial analysis; as well as cell culture, histology, molecular biology, and protein analysis capabilities.

InoCardia Spin Out Company:

InoCardia is an innovative contract research Coventry University spin-out company supporting multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. We bring

world leading, predictive, award-winning cardio-toxicity test expertise to support the requirements of pharmaceutical and biotechnology customers. InoCardia is the only provider in the world that offers truly predictive physical and virtual cardiotoxicity assessments through all stages of the drug discovery process, using predictive AI simulation methods developed in the UK to save cost and reduce time to market for global customers.

Since its foundation in 2013, InoCardia has been successful in winning multi-million-pound investment and grant funding, including InnovateUK, NC3Rs, and EIT Digital support the develop the innovative Work-Loop Platform. InoCardia has worked with global pharmaceutical companies to screen new drugs in development, develop bespoke testing assays, and identify cardiovascular toxicity in exemplars from compound libraries.

For more information, please visit www.inocardia.co.uk

OVO Biomanufacturing Spin Out Company:

OVO's technology allows manufacturers to maximise the production of the target virus that is grown to produce a vaccine or therapy. Enhancing the efficiency of manufacturing can improve yield, cut lead times and costs, and maximise distribution. This is essential when rising to the challenge of current and future pandemics.

Leadership Team

Dr William Collier (CEO)

Dr Phil Gould (CSO)

Dr Hannah Bridgewater

Postdoctoral Scientist

Dr Jack Hales (Lead Scientist)

Dr Beth Auld

Dr Gabriela Konieczny (starting 18th September)

Technicians

Pandora Warchol-Anderson

Harpreet Dhouper

For more information please www.ovobiomanufacturing.com

Themes:

Pharmacology and Molecular Bioscience

Led by Professor Mark Wheatley

Discovery Biology and Therapeutics

Led by Professor Chris Reynolds

Clinical Sciences and Translational Medicine

Led by Professor Djordje Jakovljevic

Biomedical Sciences and Biotechnology

Led by Professor Sebastian Farnaud

Student Allowances:

When studying at Coventry University you will be entitled to a Research Development Allowance of £875, which will be available for the duration of your studies. This allowance is used to purchase items to support your research.

To use this allowance, you will need approval from your director of studies and PGR lead, before purchasing the items (you will also need proof of purchase i.e. receipts). Your PGR lead will then send the approval and proof of purchase to the operation's team to process the claim.

During your studies you will also be entitled to a one-off conference allowance of £300, which is available if you are presenting at conference from your second year (full time) or third year (part time) of study onwards.

This allowance can only be accessed once, and you will need proof that you are presenting at the conference. You will also need the same approval as you would for the development allowance before the claim is sent to the operation's team.

If costs for the conference you are presenting at, amount to £300+ you will be able to use your development allowance if available.

Funders and Partners:

Research at the CHLS is funded by a range of sources, including Research Councils, European Commission, Innovate UK, NHS trust, industry and charities. Below illustrates some of the major funders for the projects both past and present.

At CHLS we value our collaborations across the globe. Our research partners range from small- and medium-sized enterprises, research institutes and universities from the UK and overseas. Our collaborators proactively work with us on projects that exchange new knowledge, create ideas, build capacity, and produce research outputs.

In addition to this, we also offer several industry funded PhDs and Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) that combine research expertise with real-life problem solving resulting in Knowledge Exchange between university and Industry partners.

Through our research, we strive to create impact that reaches beyond our local community in Coventry to country-level policy changes and enhancements in economic growth.

Staff Contact List:

Doctoral College

Kingfisher Room, first floor of Elm Bank, Mill Lane, Coventry CV1 2LQ

PGR Lifecycle Team

E: pgrlifecycle@coventry.ac.uk

Recruitment and Admissions Team

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Research Capability and Development (ReCap) Team

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Collaborative Team

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Research Operations Team

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Anna Lloyd and Jayde Stafford

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Research Delivery Team

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