

# PROGRAMME PACK

3-YEAR

## DOCTORATE OF MEDICINE (DM) IN CLINICAL SPECIALISM



# WELCOME TO THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

## 3 YEAR DOCTORATE OF MEDICINE (DM) WITH CLINICAL SPECIALISM

Our programme offers an opportunity for international clinicians, who have already achieved higher postgraduate qualifications, to come to the UK and study on an innovative medical specialism pathway programme. We are offering a 3-year clinical Doctorate of Medicine (DM) programme in a Clinical Specialism whilst gaining further clinical expertise in the NHS.

### WITH VARIOUS AWARD TITLES:

**DM in Rheumatology**

**DM in Regional Anesthesia**

**DM in Endocrinology**

**DM in Neonatology**

**DM in Critical Care**

**DM in Respiratory Medicine**

**DM in Older People Medicine**

**DM in Sports Surgery and Medicine**

**DM in Gastroenterology**

The Institute of Medical Sciences at The University of Bolton is thrilled to introduce the groundbreaking 3-year Doctorate in Medicine (DM) in Clinical Specialism with various award titles. This programme aims to provide the necessary academic and clinical training to postgraduate doctors to increase their capacity to manage competently and safely, common conditions in the expected area of clinical practice of the candidates and gain meaningful insight into the management of complex and rare conditions.

At the heart of exceptional patient care lies a team of dedicated and knowledgeable professionals. The programme is tailor-made to equip programme participants with advanced skills, up-to-date knowledge and a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic field of medicine.

This postgraduate programme aims to develop knowledgeable specialist doctors with the knowledge, understanding and skills to develop services and deliver high quality patient care. The programme will develop doctors in the chosen specialism pathway whilst also developing generalist skills so that participants are able to manage co-morbidities alongside single conditions. An innovative pioneering medical specialism pathway programme aimed at both International postgraduate doctors

On this programme students will learn from expert scientists, clinicians and multidisciplinary professionals within practice, ensuring the programme is clinically intensive whilst being based on sound evidence, data and research enquiry; leading to a systematic acquisition and understanding of new knowledge.

### COURSE FEES:

£45,000 in total

### COURSE DATES & DELIVERY:

Clinically based learning within role with blended delivery of scheduled sessions with some on-campus and some virtual. Candidates must be available to come to the UK mid-July 2025.

### FINAL AWARDS:

HE8 UK level: Doctorate of Medicine (DM) in Clinical Specialism.

### HOW TO APPLY:

In the first instance please send Expressions of Interest, via a detailed CV to **DMmedicine@bolton.ac.uk** to ensure eligibility.

# WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO EDUCATE FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS



## AIMS OF DOCTORATE OF MEDICINE IN CLINICAL SPECIALISM - DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Our innovative pioneering medical specialism pathway programme is aimed at International postgraduate doctors. Students will have the opportunity to specialise on a chosen pathway award in Rheumatology, Regional Anaesthesiology, Endocrinology, Respiratory Medicine, Neonatology or Older People Medicine to name a few.

This postgraduate programme aims to develop knowledgeable specialist doctors with the knowledge, understanding and skills to develop services and deliver high quality patient care. The programme will develop doctors in the chosen specialism pathway whilst also developing generalist skills so that participants are able to manage co-morbidities alongside single conditions.

This programme will work to align specialty choices to geographical/organisational shortages, ensuring a pioneering programme where skills are applied within role thus developing the participant towards the programme learning outcomes whilst benefitting the organisation with much needed resource. The programme will be aimed at International doctors, who will work and learn alongside each other.

### COURSE LEADER PROFESSOR IQBAL SINGH CBE

Professor Singh CBE is a Consultant Physician in Medicine for Older People at Blackburn and Pro Vice Chancellor Medicine at the Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Bolton. He has significantly contributed to healthcare and medical regulation, serving as founder Commissioner of the Health Care Commission, a Council member of the GMC (2008-12), Chair of the GMC's Equality and Diversity Committee, and member of the Review Group of Good Medical Practice in 2013. He chaired the Health Care Commission's International Expert Reference Group on Patient Safety, developing safety standards and assessment indicators. Professor Singh is a member of the Health Honours Committee and serves on the Cabinet Office Honours Equality and Inclusion Committee. He is currently a member of the national ACCIA and previously served as MVC for North West ACCEA. In 2022, he co-chaired the review into the GMC's handling of the Dr Arora case, advocating for local, compassionate, supportive, and fair regulation (Singh and Forde Review).



He chairs the Centre for Excellence in the Care of Older People, promoting dignity and respect in their care, and founded the Centre for Remediation, Support and Training (CRST) to support doctors in difficulty and integrate international medical graduates into the NHS. Both centers are hosted by the University of Bolton with support from several hospitals in the North West.

# PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN HEALTHCARE



## PROGRAMME AIMS

The programme aims have been developed to take cognisance of postgraduate medical education and training recommendations whilst considering the current medical workforce shortages to create a programme with clinical credibility and research enquiry. All within a robust academic framework, in line with QAA Doctoral Degree Characteristics and the UoB Professional Doctorate Framework Regulations.

### THE PRINCIPAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME ARE TO:

Critically develop generic professional and specialty medical and surgical specific capabilities needed to manage patients presenting with specialty conditions, promoting and protecting the health of patients and the public.

- Provide the critical knowledge and understanding required to demonstrate a systematic acquisition and understanding of new knowledge or new approaches which are at the forefront of the discipline or area of professional practice.
- Enable students to critically analyse one's own practice reflecting critically on their own progress as a learner to inform their future career development.
- Develop students with advanced knowledge and understanding of their specialism, informed by current practice, scholarship, research; and through advanced clinical decision making, contribute to safe and effective patient management.
- Facilitate the development of critical skills and capabilities in practice (CIP's); knowledge of professional responsibility, integrity, and ethics, making informed judgements on complex issues in specialist fields, developing clinical practice and healthcare services.
- Enable progression leading to autonomous practice in the chosen pathway, able to act under indirect supervision, lead patient care and quality improvements and the further development of healthcare service.
- Enable students to gain a deep understanding of the cultural and ethical complexities of the modern Health Service.
- Provide students with a critical understanding of evidence-based practice and research methodologies and the ability to critically evaluate, analyse, synthesise, generate, and disseminate findings leading to the generation of new knowledge/and or practice.
- Develop advanced teaching and communication skills to facilitate multidisciplinary team working, building therapeutic relationships with patients and colleagues and impart knowledge to others.
- Develop compassionate practitioners, able to apply ethical principles around honesty, integrity, dignity, respect, informed consent and patient confidentiality, acting as a role model for others.
- Enable the post graduate doctors to develop their leadership and management skills.

## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

This innovative Medical Specialism Programme caters to postgraduate doctors, offering a diverse range of specialisms. Features include:

- 3 years of rich clinical learning, via a salaried role, providing exposure to the UK health system via the NHS.
- Participants work in roles whilst learning and studying thus supporting workforce shortages.
- Opportunity to train in chosen specialism pathway managing conditions relevant to the clinical specialism.
- Bespoke cultural integration and Induction support (for International students).
- Reach Clinical Professional Doctoral level of practice achieving a HE8 level qualification.
- Study at our state-of-the-art, £40m purpose-built facilities, located at the Bolton Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) campus on the grounds of Royal Bolton NHS Foundation Trust.
- Faculty of distinguished leaders in their field of medicine and science.
- The programme is designed to develop compassionate, holistic, and highly skilled clinicians.
- It follows a philosophy of teaching intensive research-informed programmes, where students learn from expert scientists, clinicians and multidisciplinary professionals in a clinical environment and on taught research modules, with an emphasis on practical application in clinical practice.
- Focus on developing advanced research and enquiry skills and culminates in Doctoral Clinical Research Thesis.
- Participants could go on to use their knowledge and experience learned throughout the programme toward CESR applications for Consultant status or programme graduates may decide to work towards Royal College specialism accreditation following the programme.
- We are in the process of obtaining GMC sponsorship status to facilitate your registration if you are successful in obtaining the placement.

### OUR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMME ALSO PROVIDES:

**Cutting-Edge Curriculum:** The Doctorate programme is curated by industry experts and academic leaders, guaranteeing that our participants receive the latest insights, research and practices in the field of medicine.

**Clinical Excellence:** With a focus on enhancing clinical skills, our participants will be better equipped to provide superior patient care, make informed decisions, and communicate effectively with patients and their families.

**Leadership and Management:** Our comprehensive programme goes beyond clinical expertise, offering topics that nurture leadership, ethical decision-making, and management skills—essential for shaping future leaders in the field.



## THE CLINICAL ROLE

The clinical posts are allocated depending on the chosen allocated pathway. This could be in one of the following partner organisations:

[Country Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust](#)

[Royal Bolton NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Stockport NHS Foundation Trust](#)

This is a fixed role for the three-year period. The post is an integral part of the programme and enables the students to meet the required learning outcomes. Participants will be expected to travel to the UK, typically in July or August to attend induction and work shadowing at the Trust.

### **SALARY**

You will be paid a full-time basic salary (based on a 40-hour working week). Your salary on commencement as an International Training Fellow (Year 1) is (MT03) £49,909 per annum, which is point 3 (in recognition of past experience). Your incremental date (Year 2) will be the anniversary of your commencement. On your incremental date, your basic salary will increase to (MT04) £61,825 per annum, this is irrespective of any change in duties which may occur prior to this date. If your job has on call duties, you will receive additional remuneration in line with current terms and conditions of service.

The progression from MT04 to MT05 is at the discretion of the employing trust and is based on satisfactory review and sufficient progression, it is not automatic.

International Training Fellow Year 1 will typically be at a Senior SHO / Junior Registrar level. If doctors arrive late to join their clinical post, contracts will always end in August to keep in line with UK doctor's changeover. The aim of the clinical posts is to give you a broad experience in the management of the common conditions of your chosen specialty and also to expose you to the management of more complex conditions. You may also be required to work in the generality of your specialty.

Indicative salaries or other similar pay scales

Nodal point 1 (£36,616) local appointment grade code – MT01

Nodal point 2 (£42,008) local appointment grade code – MT02

Nodal point 3 (£49,909) local appointment grade code – MT03

Nodal point 4 (£61,825) local appointment grade code – MT04

Nodal point 5 (£70,425) local appointment grade code – MT05



## OUR EXPECTATION OF PARTICIPANTS

- Be available and committed to the three-year period and complete all programme elements.
- Some scheduled teaching will be delivered either on a weekday or weekend. Dates will be circulated well in advance.
- Accept a job plan that combines clinical commitment, research commitment and scheduled teaching sessions.
- Be willing to balance work and independent study. Completing study and assessment over weekends or evenings.
- Be committed to NHS standards and values and behaviour.
- Hold and demonstrate academic and clinical skills, demonstrating required language skills.
- A flexible attitude, willing to commit to post in a range of teaching and specialisms based on workforce vacancies.
- You will be required to work in your parent speciality - (example acute medicine for the physicians and general trauma for the orthopaedic doctor) throughout the programme'.



## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND COMPONENTS

This is a HE8 Doctoral level qualification which will allow our participants to become a Medical Leader in their specialism field. We will develop our participants in brand new, world-class facilities on the Royal Bolton NHS Foundation Trust and Bolton Institute of Medical Sciences campus in Greater Manchester to further develop our participants as compassionate, holistic, highly skilled and professional speciality clinicians and they will work within North West NHS Trusts.

Our philosophy is Teaching Intensive Research Informed programmes, a commitment to excellence in learning and teaching and they will learn from expert scientists, clinicians and multidisciplinary professionals. The patient-centred curriculum is delivered through a mixture of lectures, small group work and predominantly clinical teaching whilst in their day to day role in addition to attending modules to develop their research and enquiry skills to broaden their critical thinking and analysis.

The programme providing the necessary, academic and clinical training, to increase their capacity in managing common conditions in the specialism areas competently and safely, also completing work-based audits and projects. Develop more advanced research and enquiry skills, culminating in a Clinical Speciality Research Specific project.

The programme covers core specialism theory and practice in a combined work based and classroom setting with participants working in clinical areas alongside the programme, enabling the application of theory to practice, developing a higher level of clinical expertise ensuring compassionate, holistic practitioners.

This programme is both clinically and academically focused. The structure, therefore, is designed to allow the student to undertake clinical research modules simultaneously, enabling knowledge and skill transfer across academic and clinical content. Clinical doctoral level research skills will be delivered as two 20 credit modules (HE8) enabling students to develop academic skills in critical appraisal and in the latter module apply these principles in the design of their own doctoral level research project. In combination these two modules should provide students with a comprehensive awareness of research methods and critical appraisal and analysis: the foundations of evidence-based medicine.

Clinically based modules will span each year, allowing students the opportunity to develop and practice clinical skills alongside the taught content of principles of evidence-based research practice. Clinical practice will be assessed through use of clinical examination in addition to completion of the skills-based log of procedures culminating in a portfolio. A series of specialism specific structured learning events (SLE's) will guide clinical skill development. These will be pre-determined topics of around 25 a year with reflective events and the linkage of relevant journal articles to assist in the development of evidence-based knowledge. The clinical modules will be Zero credit in nature but with a pass/fail outcome with a portfolio as a vehicle for deep reflective learning and assessment. Assessed at the end of each year.

## PROGRAMME MODULES

### DOCTORATE OF MEDICINE (DM) IN CLINICAL SPECIALISM

YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Induction and Integration Support	Clinical Doctoral Portfolio Development	Clinical Doctoral Portfolio Submission
Clinical Practice Structured Learning Events	Clinical Practice Structured Learning Events	Clinical Practice Structured Learning Events
<b>Taught Module:</b> Doctoral Research Design and Methods	Progress Reviews	Conference Attendance
<b>Taught Module:</b> Advanced Research analysis and methods	Conference Attendance	Independent Study
Clinical Doctoral Portfolio Development	Independent Study	Progress Reviews
Progress Reviews	Clinical Thesis/ Research Development	Clinical Examination and VIVA

**Assessments:** There will be a range of formative and summative assessments and progress reviews across the Programme to assess clinical practice and academic achievement. The Programme culminates in a Doctoral level portfolio of work.

## STAGES OF APPLICATION AND RECRUITMENT



### 1. APPLICATION FORM

In the first instance please send Expressions of interest via a detailed CV, to ensure eligibility, to: [DMmedicine@bolton.ac.uk](mailto:DMmedicine@bolton.ac.uk)

Please could you ensure that in your CV you have detailed your research and clinical experience.

After you have submitted your detailed CV, if you are eligible, you will be invited to submit an Application form, which will be completed and submitted via the University of Bolton website.

The following are a requirement and applicants will be shortlisted for interview against the following criteria: International students should:

1. hold an initial degree in medicine MBChB (or equivalent to their country), awarded by a recognised institution
2. Have completed a recognised postgraduate course (MD, MS, DNB or equivalent);
3. Be a practicing healthcare doctor with at least 3 years postgraduate clinical experience, treating patients with full registration with the appropriate professional regulatory body for that country, without any gaps in practice.



### 2. INTERVIEW

The interviews for candidates will take place online or face-to-face and will take the form of a panel interview assessing key competency areas around:

1. Knowledge, Skills and development.
2. Patients, partnership and communication.
3. Colleagues, culture and safety
4. Trust and Professionalism as set out in the GMC, Good Medical Practice (2024) and against the general entry requirements.
5. Review of your research experience.



### 3. OFFER

Based on the interview outcome and score, applicants may then receive a conditional offer. Academic and personal information will be re-reviewed. All offers at this point are subject to satisfactory health clearance from our occupational health partners and other NHS pre-employment clearances.

## MINIMUM CRITERIA NEEDED TO JOIN THE PROGRAMME ROUTE

- You must have a primary medical degree recognised by the General Medical Council of the UK, i.e., MB ChB or MBBS.
- You must have obtained a postgraduate qualification in your chosen specialty equivalent in your home country, e.g., MS/MD, DNB in Surgery or Diplomate of National Board of India (DNB) in Surgery or Medicine, FCPS (Pakistan), MSc or MD (Cairo University), FWACS (Africa).
- You must demonstrate that you have been engaged in clinical practice / training for at least three out of the last five years.
- Please note the '12-month rule'. International Medical Graduates (IMGs) applying for full GMC registration via the sponsorship route must remain in clinical practice for the 12 months immediately preceding the date the application for GMC registration is made. A period of absence of up to 5 weeks is allowed for the purpose of annual leave. Please ensure that you do not come out of clinical practice during this 12-month period. GMC registration will not be awarded if you do not meet these criteria. Please note also that Clinical Observerships are not considered to be medical practice.
- As per GMC standards (which may be subject to change), you must have achieved a minimum score of 7.0 in all 4 categories of the ACADEMIC (UKVI) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with an overall score of 7.5. You must take this test at one of the approved SELT Consortium test centres. <https://ielts.org/> OR the Occupational English Test <https://oet.com/test/test-overview>, is also accepted. You must achieve a minimum score of B in all four of the categories.
- Conditional offers to join the programme will only be made to candidates who have reached the required level in the IELTS / OET examination (see above). Please beware that by not having this completed in a timely manner you may jeopardise an offer to join the programme. We advise that you complete this by the time of interview to avoid loss of deposit.
- As per GMC Standards you must submit your Primary Medical Qualification certificate for verification via the ECFMG portal. We advise that you start this process immediately. Please check this website: <https://www.ecfm.org/psv/cvhp-gmc.html>
- You need a certificate of good standing from the medical council you are registered with. This is valid for three months.
- Please make the application to your medical council in March/ April 2025, so that it is valid when you apply for GMC registration (if successful in the interviews) in May 2025.
- You must not have attempted and failed the PLAB exam (either Part 1 or 2).
- You must be eligible for a Tier 2 (General) or Tier 2 Health and Care visa and meet NHS employment standards as required by law to work in UK. <https://www.gov.uk/health-care-worker-visa>
- You will be offered an international training fellow post to enable you to meet the learning objectives of the programme. This will be facilitated through the sponsorship of the GMC registration and appropriate visa to work in the United Kingdom

**Please note, a job following the programme is not guaranteed. Graduates of the programme will be required to take responsibility for their employment following the programme.**

## FACULTY & SUPPORT

During this programme our participants will have access to our experienced, highly skilled faculty, along with multidisciplinary professionals within practice areas. The programme will be delivered by a highly experienced and professional team of senior academic and clinical staff from across the UK, who are at the top of their field in education and clinical practice. Eminent clinicians take the role of Consultant specialism pathway leads. These are senior clinicians, specialists renowned in their own fields and either teach on the programme or supervise students. The Institute of Medicine also has circa 70 renowned Visiting Professors and Senior Lectures from both clinical and non-clinical backgrounds across specialisms and sectors.



Dr Savi Sivashanker  
Neonatology



Mr Saqif Hossain  
Sports Surgery and Medicine



Dr Shashidhara Madapura  
Regional Anaesthesia



Clare Swarbrick  
Postgraduate Programmes Director



Dr Srikanth Mada  
Endocrinology



Dr Anirudh Bhandari  
Gastroenterology



Dr Easwaradhas Gladston Chelliah  
Rheumatology



Dr Rizwan Ahmed MBE  
Respiratory Medicine

In addition to the above, each student will be assigned a Clinical Supervisor, who will be trained and prepared for the role inline with GMC Standards. They will also be guided and assessed by a Clinical pathway lead and project supervisor, who will guide and assess our participants inline with the University of Bolton assessment guidelines. Finally, they will be assigned a Mentor. This individual will guide and support them pastorally through their whole student journey.

## INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

The programme offers a unique blend of academic learning and clinical experience in the NHS in the students' chosen specialty. A variety of teaching and learning strategies are implemented, including lectures, seminars, workshops, simulation, group tutorials and independent guided study.

Face-to-face sessions will be held at the new, purpose built, £40m Institute of Medical Sciences (IoMS), in the grounds of the Royal Bolton Hospital. The state-of-the-art building which houses the School of Medicine, will be home to six simulation suites, with each able to accommodate 30 students at once. These simulation suites will replicate different types of hospital ward with industry-grade equipment, creating a highly accurate hospital setting in a simulated and controlled environment.

A state-of-the-art 4D room will take this immersive and interactive learning experience further.

Two "high-fidelity" suites have been specifically designed for conducting controlled assessments of clinical practice. One of these suites has also been designed to easily transform into an operating theatre. In addition to these high-fidelity suites, there will also be a community simulation suite. This room will create a home-like environment, simulating the types of issues that clinicians deal with when providing care in a non-hospital setting.

The design team has worked extensively alongside senior clinicians at Bolton NHS Foundation Trust, ensuring the layout and equipment create an accurate and highly tuned environment that will prepare future clinicians for the scenarios they will face.





**ONLINE**

EMAIL: [DMMEDICINE@BOLTON.AC.UK](mailto:DMMEDICINE@BOLTON.AC.UK)

WEB: [WWW.MEDICINE.BOLTON.AC.UK](http://WWW.MEDICINE.BOLTON.AC.UK)

TEL: +44 (0)1204 903 239