

**ACADEMIC CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP / ACADEMIC LECTURER IN LIAISON PSYCHIATRY
(PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE)**

Medical practice, both in primary and secondary care, focuses on the identification and treatment of disease. Comorbid psychiatric disorders and other psychological factors are frequently under-recognised and under-treated. This failure of care has important negative consequences for patients' quality of life and medical outcomes.

Patient groups in which these factors are particularly important are: those who have long-term conditions (such as diabetes or cancer) and who also have psychiatric disorders (most commonly depression) and those whose symptoms are poorly unexplained by disease, often referred to as 'medically unexplained symptoms'.

The Psychological Medicine Research group conducts descriptive studies to determine how common these problems are in medical practice, who they affect and intervention studies to evaluate psychiatric interventions with the aim of improving patient outcomes.

We are currently developing interventions for depression in patients with diabetes and in patients near the end of life. We are also planning new studies of patients with delirium and patients with medically unexplained symptoms.

The work provides experience in clinical research at the interface of psychiatry and medicine using rigorous clinical measurements and randomised control trials.

Supervision will be by Dr Jane Walker, Senior Clinical Researcher in Liaison Psychiatry, and Professor Michael Sharpe, Professor of Psychological Medicine.

If you are interested in discussing how you may participate in this research programme please contact Jenny Dollard, PA to Professor Sharpe and Dr Walker, at: msharpe.pa@psych.ox.ac.uk.