

Academically Advanced Socially Progressive

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Research Assistant in Rehabilitation

Department	Biomedical Engineering (www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/biomedicalengineering/)		
Faculty	Faculty of Engineering (www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/)		
Staff Category	Research	Reference No	698748
Reports To	Head of Department through Dr Andy Kerr	Grade	6
Salary Range	£32546 - £36130	Contract Type	Fixed Term (24 months)
FTE	1 (35 hours/week)	Closing Date	05/05/2025
Working Arrangements	Fully On-site. Due to the nature of this role, it is based fully on-site.		
Work Location	Mixed; University and NHS/HSCP locations		



Job Advert

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a rehabilitation/exercise researcher at the University of Strathclyde. The post will support and evaluate the community roll out of a Technology Enriched Rehabilitation Gym for people recovering from stroke. The Sir Jules Thorn Centre for Rehabilitation Technology centre has developed a multi-technology, high intensity circuit-based group exercise programme that lasts eight weeks and tailors' rehabilitation to individual needs. It has been tested with more than 100 chronic stroke survivors at the University and 60 sub-acute patients at an NHS stroke unit. We have now received funding to implement this exciting rehabilitation programme at four new centres across Scotland so that more people can receive the recommended levels of rehabilitation after stroke. The four locations (Dundee, Edinburgh, Wishaw and Blantyre) are in collaboration with partners in the NHS, Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland and Dundee Leisure and Culture. As an implementation study the main tasks for a researcher would be to support the local teams delivering the intervention, including training and resolving issues with the equipment, and to collect data that provided the evidence for future programmes, including changes in the function of participants and impact on their lives. To do this we would like an individual comfortable with a mixed methods approach, some training can be provided.

As a Research Assistant, under the general guidance of a research leader, you will develop research objectives and proposals, play a lead role in relation to a specific project/s or part of a broader project, conduct individual and/or collaborative research, contribute to the development of new research methods, identify sources of funding, and contribute to the securing of funds for research, including drafting grant proposals and planning for future proposals. You will write up research work for publication, individually or in collaboration with colleagues, and disseminate the results via peer reviewed journal publications and presentation at conferences. You will join external networks to share information and ideas, inform the development of research objectives and to identify potential sources of funding. You will collaborate with colleagues to ensure that research advances inform departmental teaching effort and you will collaborate with colleagues on the development of knowledge exchange activities by, for example, participating in initiatives which establish research links with industry and influence public policy and the professions. You will also supervise student projects, provide advice to students and contribute to teaching as required by, for example, running tutorials and supervising practical work. You will contribute in a developing capacity to Department/School, Faculty and/or University administrative and management functions and committees and engage in continuous professional development.

To be considered for the role, you will be educated to a minimum of BSc (Hons) in a related area (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, exercise and sport) and have experience in delivering exercise to special populations, for example people with neurological conditions like stroke. You will have sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in rehabilitation/exercise and an ability to conduct individual research work, to disseminate results and to prepare research proposals. You will have an ability to plan and organise your own workload effectively and an ability to work within a team environment. You will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences.

Whilst not essential for the role, applications are welcomed from candidates with experience using rehabilitation technology, completed/almost completed a PhD or desire to register for a higher degree and engage in research related activities.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

To assist in the delivery of research activities as part of a team, working on an established research programme/s under the general supervision of senior colleagues; to input as a team member to administrative activities; to assist where required with relevant teaching and knowledge exchange activities.

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Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1. Liaise with four rehabilitation centres
 2. Manage and prioritise own workload within agreed objectives to ensure that all activities are completed to deadlines.
 3. Take informed consent and collect data from participants before and after the rehabilitation programme
 4. Help recruit participants
 5. Write up results of own research and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
 6. Contribute to the planning of rehabilitation programmes
 7. Assist with the supervision of student projects and the delivery of introductory classes as required.
 8. Input as a team member to Department/School, Faculty and/or University administrative activities.
 9. Assist with professional and knowledge exchange activities as required.
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Person Specification

Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

- E1 Good honours degree in an appropriate discipline i.e. physiotherapy, occupational therapy, exercise prescription, sport.
 - D1 Higher degree (or equivalent professional experience) in an appropriate discipline.
 - D2 Membership/working towards membership of relevant Chartered/professional bodies (including Higher Education Academy).
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Experience

- E2 Sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in the relevant discipline/s to effectively contribute to the research programme/s.
 - D3 Some relevant work experience.
 - D4 Experience of relevant student supervision and teaching activities.
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Job Related Skills and Achievements

- E3 Knowledge of appropriate research methods.
 - E4 Ability to plan and organise own workload effectively with general supervision from senior colleagues.
 - E5 Ability to work within a team environment.
 - D5 Experience of knowledge exchange related activities.
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Personal Attributes

- E6 Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences.
 - E7 Car driving license holder/Car driver
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Application Procedure

Applicants should visit Strathclyde's vacancies portal and complete an online application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

University of Strathclyde encourages the recruitment of disabled and neurodivergent candidates. If you need any reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process, please let us know. You are welcome to submit a paper application or a CV instead of the online application form by contacting us at humanresources@strath.ac.uk.

Interviews

Formal interviews for this post will be held on a date To Be Confirmed

The University is a Disability Confident Employer and operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled candidates who meet all the essential criteria for the post that they are applying for.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Dr Andy Kerr, a.kerr@strath.ac.uk.

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Research staff category can be found at: [Conditions of Employment](#).

Rewards and Benefits

Our comprehensive benefits package, including generous annual leave, family-friendly benefits, flexible work options, and a commitment to continuous learning, reflects our appreciation for the valuable contributions of our colleagues.

We understand that each staff member has unique priorities and lifestyles, so our diverse benefits ensure there is something for everyone, details of which can be found on our [Rewards and Benefits webpage](#).

- **Financial Rewards:** We provide attractive financial packages, including competitive salaries, relocation support for employees and a generous pension scheme, with university contributions of 14.5% for USS and 6.5% for LGPS.
- **Work-Life Balance:** We are dedicated to enhancing healthy work-life balance for our employees. We offer generous annual leave, an additional annual leave purchase option, flexible and agile work arrangements.
 - Annual Leave: Generous entitlement of 27 days (Grade 5 and below) or 31 days (Grade 6 and above), in addition to 11 public holidays and University closure days.
 - Additional annual leave purchase: Option to request purchase of 2 weeks' additional annual leave per year.
 - Flexible and agile working: The University provides flexible work arrangements. You can request arrangements that fit you and your role, such as hybrid, part-time, compressed hours, term-time, adjusted shifts, staggered hours. These requests can be made from the first day of your employment.
- **Family Friendly Benefits:** We offer a variety of enhanced family-friendly benefits to support our employees in balancing work and family responsibilities. These include Maternity Leave, Paternity/Maternity Support, Adoption Leave, Shared Parental Leave, Parental Leave, Carers Leave and support, Family Friendly Research & Scholarship Leave, and access to our on-campus nursery.

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- **Career Development:** Our commitment to personal development is reflected in initiatives such as professional courses, subsidised educational programs, coaching and mentoring, leadership development, secondment opportunities, and access to our library.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** We place high importance on the safety, wellbeing, and health of all our staff and offer discounted Strathclyde Sport membership, an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), Occupational Health Service, and Cycle to Work scheme.
- **Recognition Awards:** At Strathclyde, we place a strong emphasis on acknowledging and rewarding our staff's commitment and exceptional contributions. This is demonstrated through our Long-Service Awards and our Values-based Strathclyde Medals.

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 9 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join Universities' Superannuation Scheme Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the [Relocation Policy](#).

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our [equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks](#).

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

The University currently holds an Athena Swan **Silver award**, recognising our commitment to advancing women's careers in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment in academia.

University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. [Our Values](#) have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

In delivering **our People Strategy**, we will contribute, act, and make decisions guided by these values.

- **People-oriented:** committed to our staff and students, providing opportunities, and investing in their development.
- **Bold:** confident and challenging in what we do, and supportive of embracing appropriate and managed risk in our decision-making.
- **Innovative:** focused on discovering and applying knowledge with impact and encouraging creative thinking and new ideas.

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- **Collaborative:** working together, with our colleagues and external partners, with integrity and in an open, respectful way.
- **Ambitious:** for our institution, staff and students as well as supporting the ambitions of our partners.



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The Pregnancy
Loss Pledge

