

Royal College of Psychiatrists

Job description

Job title:	Presidential Lead for Applied Research
Term of office:	Co-terminus with President (September 2026 – July 2029)
Responsible to:	President
Working with:	
Governance	President and other College Officers
Management	Chief Executive, Director of CCQI and other College staff as required
Responsible for:	Presidential Scholar for Applied Research
Elected/appointed:	Appointed
Scope:	UK-wide
Time commitment:	1 PA per week
Salary:	Unpaid/Voluntary

Job purpose

Provide leadership in promoting the embedding of research, innovation and evidence-based practice across mental health providers in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The role will work collaboratively with College members, staff and stakeholders across the four nations to support research-informed service improvement and innovation.

The role will work with research and development leads, clinical and quality improvement teams to facilitate the translation of research into practice, support the adoption of successful innovations, improve patient access to clinical research, and coordinate academic partnerships to deliver the academic strategy and strengthen research-informed service improvement.

Key responsibilities

- *Work with organisational R&D leads, clinical leaders and quality improvement teams to ensure services are delivering evidence-based care and adapting emerging research evidence to meet the needs of local populations*
- *Facilitate a collaborative network of R&D leads across provider organisations to share learning, disseminate best practice, and support the spread and adoption of successful research-informed innovations*
- *Work closely with quality improvement and research leaders to identify gaps from research findings to promote improvement*
- *Promote improved access to clinical research and trials for patients*
- *To liaise and coordinate with the academic faculty, including on delivery of the academic strategy*
- *To liaise and coordinate with the Associate Dean for Academic Training*
- *Work with staff and members of the College across the four nations of the UK to tailor activities to the specific national contexts the College works across the UK*
- *Managing the work of a Presidential Scholar*

Person specification

Essential

- Must be a Member, Fellow or Specialist Associate of RCPsych
- Experience of developing strategy
- Excellent communication skills
- Influencing skills and ability to inspire others
- Ability to chair committees
- Track record of effective leadership at a national or regional level
- Experience of working in applied research and innovation
- Experience of working with a wide group of stakeholders, including patients, carers and the public
- Ability to work effectively across the differing health, care, research and policy contexts of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Desirable

- Contemporary experience of working in UK mental health services

Scope

Some member roles have a global or UK-wide remit, whereas others are nation or region specific. If your role has a UK-wide remit, please be aware that health and social care, education and training, local government and some taxation are all devolved areas in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Justice and policing are devolved powers for Scotland and Northern Ireland. To reflect this, the RCPsych has Devolved Councils and

structures in each nation which lead the College's engagement on these matters, and devolved policy can often vary to meet national requirements.

If you have any questions or need any guidance about the situation in any of the four nations, please speak to your College staff contact.

The College Values

Courage

- Champion the specialty of psychiatry and its benefits to patients
- Take every opportunity to promote and influence the mental health agenda
- Take pride in our organisation and demonstrate self-belief
- Promote parity of esteem
- Uphold the dignity of those affected by mental illness, intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders

Innovation

- Embrace innovation and improve ways to deliver services
- Challenge ourselves and be open to new ideas
- Seek out and lead on new, evidence-based, ways of working
- Have the confidence to take considered risks
- Embrace the methodology of Quality Improvement to improve mental health services and the work of the College.

Respect

- Promote diversity and challenge inequalities
- Behave respectfully – and with courtesy – towards everyone
- Challenge bullying and inappropriate behaviour
- Value everyone's input and ideas equally
- Consider how own behaviour might affect others
- Respect the environment and promote sustainability.

Collaboration

- Work together as One College – incorporating all members, employees, patients and carers
- Work professionally and constructively with partner organisations
- Consult all relevant audiences to achieve effective outcomes for the College
- Work together with patients and carers as equal partners
- Be transparent, wherever possible and appropriate.

Learning

- Learn from all experiences
- Share our learning and empower others to do the same
- Value and encourage personal feedback
- Use feedback to make continuous improvements
- Create an enabling environment where everyone is listened to, regardless of seniority
- Positively embrace new ways of working.

Excellence

- Deliver outstanding service to members, patients, carers and other stakeholders
- Promote excellent membership and employee experience
- Always seek to improve on own performance
- Promote professionalism by acting with integrity and behaving responsibly
- Demonstrate accountability in all that we do
- Uphold the College's 'Core Values for Psychiatrists'.

INTERNAL COLLEGE CONTACT:
• Department: College Centre for Quality Improvement (CCQI) • Name of Contact and Email: Peter Thompson (Peter.Thompson@rcpsych.ac.uk) • Job Title: Director of CCQI