

## **Northern Health Science Alliance (NHSA) Associate Medical Director (Healthy Ageing)**

**Responsible to:** Chief Executive, the NHSA

**Responsible for:** N/A

**Salary (to include basic salary plus any awards or equivalent):** £400 gross per session, 4 sessions per month required

**Contract:** Fixed Term for 3 years

### **Background Information**

[The Northern Health Science Alliance](#) (NHSA) was established in 2011 and acts as a front door to the North of England's health research system, working for a healthier, wealthier region. As a partnership established by the leading universities, NHS Hospital Trusts and all four Academic Health Science Networks in the North of England, the NHSA acts as an advocate for, and provides a portal to, its internationally recognised health science excellence.

The NHSA has enjoyed significant success in creating opportunity and value for its member organisations and currently counts 24 constituent organisations, which include 10 research-intensive universities, 10 research-active NHS trusts and the four Northern Academic Health Science Networks. By bringing the Alliance together it has been able to leverage individual organisational strengths and capabilities for greater impact, raising the profile of health science in the North of England, attracting research funding from traditional and non-traditional sources, and contributing to better patient outcomes in its regions.

In 2019, the NHSA in collaboration with our sister health and life sciences cluster, [MedCity](#), has been awarded £4.5m over three years by [Research England](#) to foster economic growth and help speed up the development of health innovations to the public.

### **Healthy Ageing Programme Context:**

The NHSA's [Healthy Ageing](#) programme was created in 2016 and has developed into a valuable vehicle of engagement and collaboration particularly for the research-intensive universities of our membership.

Under the Healthy Ageing programme of activity, the NHSA has

- Supported the successful applications of four organisations for Reference Site status in the European Innovation Partnership for Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA) and created the UK Reference Site Network by joining Northern expertise in healthy ageing with that in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Entered into a joint-working agreement with AMGEN to deliver a supra-regional innovative new approach to reduce the risk of older people breaking bones by identifying patients at high risk of

fractures, evaluate medications and treat those patients, where appropriate, with a bone-sparing agent to improve bone density.

- Signed a multi-institution agreement with research intensive institutions and organisations in Canada dedicated to the field of improving the health of their ageing population.

Whilst the successful applicant will have the title of 'Associate Medical Director (Healthy Ageing)', we are looking for an 'all-rounder' who understands the necessity for teamwork and the importance of rolling up their sleeves to lend their clinical expertise and knowledge to other areas of our activity whenever they are needed.

### **Job Description**

#### **Main Purpose of the Role:**

##### **External Facing:**

- Fostering regional, national and international engagement closely aligned primarily to the thematic area of healthy ageing research, innovation and service delivery
- A specific and immediate focus for this role will be to act as a clinical champion to the healthy ageing activity the NHSA is undertaking on international and domestic stages with audiences including commercial organisations; clinicians and academics; patients and public; innovation and adoption experts to foster meaningful engagement and support the creation of valuable propositions
- Developing and promoting the NHSA's assets and capabilities across our member organisations in the field of healthy ageing and contributing insights into how we create future propositions for funding.
- Representing the NHSA Chief Executive and/or Executive Team at regional, national and international events; raising the profile of the Alliance's constituent members and strengths in healthy ageing.

##### **Internal Facing:**

- Being the go-to person in the NHSA for clinical expertise on healthy ageing, including for the purpose of external communications and PR.
- Providing dedicated support to the healthy ageing programme, including support with bid writing and providing advice on the content of resources designed to showcase our Alliance's assets and expertise.

With a unique blend of external and internal facing duties, this role represents an exciting opportunity to contribute to building upon the existent traction of the NHSA in a core area of our activity. The successful applicant will work with our existing healthy ageing network and have an understanding of the different sectors the Alliance serves, with a focus of maintaining relationships with our constituent member institutions and organisations across the Northern region and championing their collective expertise on domestic and international stages.

They will need to engage with a wide variety of clinicians, academics, commercial partners and government agencies and possess a flair for influencing decision making and negotiation. Crucially important, is the

ability to not favour one constituent member of the Alliance over another in order to maintain the 'honest broker' credibility that the NHSA has cultivated.

Ideally based in the North of England, there will be some national and occasional international travel involved in successfully carrying out the role coupled with some unsociable hours. All of which is expected to be managed through a flexible working arrangement.

**Person Specification:** (E: Essential, D: Desirable)

Qualifications		Evidence
Appropriate clinical qualification(s).	E	CV
Postgraduate qualification(s) in a relevant discipline.	E	CV
Knowledge, Skills and Experience		
Proven clinical credibility in the field of ageing health and multi-morbidities management.	E	CV
Proven track record of presenting, facilitating and publication in a diverse range of settings.	E	CV
Proven track record of convening multi-agency, multi-disciplinary stakeholders for the purpose of addressing challenges in ageing health and formulating a shared goal and ambition.	E	Interview
Proven track record of attracting funding and creating propositions especially for unmet needs.	D	Interview
Knowledge and understanding of UK Government, national and regional priorities, strategy and policy relating to the healthy ageing.	E	Interview
Comprehensive knowledge of the North of England as a culture and community, along with its assets and challenges.	E	Interview
Ability to balance the demanding and sometimes conflicting expectations of our constituent members, and the ability to not prioritise one constituent member organisation over another therefore ensuring equity and trust across the membership.	E	Interview
Excellent interpersonal, motivational, negotiating, influencing and analytical skills.	E	Interview
Confidence in terms of the way in which the constituent sectors of the NHSA sit alongside each other, interact and often dove-tail; and the strategic drivers of the various sectors.	E	Cover Letter
Knowledge of the working systems of the NHS, its priorities and challenges and opportunities open to them both domestically and internationally.	E	Cover Letter

Knowledge of the working systems of HEIs along with opportunities within Academia and Industry.	D	Cover Letter
Knowledge of the working systems of Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs); their function as an innovation portal and the way in which their objectives interface with those of the NHSA.	D	Cover Letter
<b>Attributes and Behaviours</b>		
Credible influencer and negotiator with the ability to shape decision with a variety of audiences.	E	Interview
Energetic and dynamic with a demonstrable passion to uphold and champion the NHSA's vision and mission to a variety of audiences.	E	Interview
Emotionally intelligent communication in all formats; with colleagues, Alliance members and stakeholders of all levels and backgrounds.	E	Interview
Demonstrable perception and an astute political acumen.	E	Interview