

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
School of Medicine

DM/PhD Project

Developing a geriatric assessment tool for older women with early primary breast cancer

The majority of breast cancers occur in older women. The elderly population has specific needs which impact on their reaction to diagnosis, decision making process, and quality of life (QOL), due to psychosocial background and physical co-morbidities. Despite having an important health problem now and in the foreseeable future, the population concerned is underserved and under-researched.

There is currently a research programme on various (biological, psychosocial and health economical) aspects of early primary breast cancer in older women, led by Mr KL Cheung, Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Medical Sciences & Graduate Entry Medicine, School of Medicine. The team includes collaborators from Schools of Health Sciences and Pharmacy, and also external institutions in the UK (Nottingham Trent University, Breast Cancer Care, Derby Hospitals, Nottingham University Hospitals and Sherwood Forest Hospitals) and in the US (City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Durate, California and University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston).

Specifically this project will be around the development of a geriatric assessment tool in this population. Ethics approval has already been obtained to perform comprehensive geriatric assessment and to formulate a more complete understanding of quality of life and treatment decision making in older women with early primary breast cancer.

The successful applicant will be jointly supervised by Mr Cheung and Ms M Kaushik, Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon, Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, where the project will be conducted as a clinical research fellowship.

NHS application

The applicant must apply separately to the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust for the post of Clinical Research Fellow in Breast Surgery (www.jobs.nhs.uk - **Job number is 358-583-4358-A**).

Applicants should therefore be expected to fulfil the requirements of the Division of Medical Sciences & Graduate Entry Medicine for entry into a DM/PhD programme, and also the person specifications of the Clinical Research Fellow post. Standard vetting procedures, including DBS check, will be required.

For further information or informal enquiries, please send CV to Mr Cheung at kl.cheung@nottingham.ac.uk.