



Research Consultant: HTA

York Health Economics Consortium

Closing date: Sunday 25th July 2021 at 5pm

Interview date: Friday 6th August 2021





INTRODUCTION

We are looking to recruit three Research Consultants to undertake a wide range of projects in our public sector, digital health work and health economic modelling work streams. We are a health economics research and consulting company owned by, and based at, the University of York. We provide consultancy and research to a wide range of public and private sector bodies. Our clients include:

- Government bodies, such as the Department of Health
- NICE and the SMC
- Global pharmaceutical manufacturers
- Medical device and biotech companies

We have a team of 56 staff. We hold the Investors in People accreditation with our composite score of 778, against an industry benchmark of 725, putting us in the top 20% of organisations. We want staff to enjoy working at YHEC; our office is a friendly place to work and we have an employee wellbeing programme. This is based on suggestions from staff and includes lunchtime walks, sporting activities and charity fundraising events. YHEC staff nominate a charity on an annual basis and undertake fundraising throughout the year. We also have a social committee who organise events on a regular basis; even in the current circumstances we have used Zoom to help conduct these events. We are keen to support voluntary / charitable activities and staff may set aside up to two days per year (in work time) to undertake such activities. Staff at YHEC enjoy our inclusive, flexible and friendly working environment.

Our location means that staff have full access to the range of facilities offered by the University of York. We encourage staff to engage with other research departments based at the University. The combination of our unique location and the breadth of our research portfolio makes YHEC a stimulating environment to work in, providing opportunities to work with a wide range of clients using multiple research methods. The pace of work is fast moving and will appeal to people who enjoy working on multiple projects.

You will be involved in a range of projects across three complementary work streams and you will be able to decide if you would like to specialise in a particular area or maintain a wider portfolio of interests.

Our NHS Consulting work stream has grown in the last five years as clients seek to demonstrate the value of products when real world pressures and incentives are applied. This has included working on complex system evaluation for the NHS and public sector. In collaboration with the Centre for Health Economics (CHE) we are the Economic and Methodological Unit (EMU) for the NICE Centre for Guidelines (CfG). As part of our work within EMU we produce the economic analyses and associated economic models to NICE specifications to aid the Public Health Advisory Committees in guideline development. We also carry out projects to address methodological issues identified by the CfG.

We have recently established a team to undertake economic evaluations of digital health technologies, which is a new and exciting area to get involved in. The team undertakes research to quantify the cost-effectiveness and budget impact of these technologies and to work closely with clients to transfer knowledge on economic evaluation to digital health technology companies.

Our Health Economic Modelling (HEM) team undertakes research to quantify the cost-effectiveness of a range of health technologies (pharmaceuticals, medical devices, public health interventions) for a range of large and small clients within the public, private and charity sectors. We work across a broad range of therapy areas including orphan and ultra-orphan indications developing budget impact models, and undertaking statistical analyses of individual patient-level data in order to parameterise our economic models. We also work closely with our clients in preparing their submission dossiers to agencies such as NICE and we actively look to publish our work in peer-reviewed journals.

We want to help you to further develop your professional career at YHEC and we actively encourage internal and external training and development. Further details of our work are available at www.yhec.co.uk and photos of recent charity events and social activities are on our social media accounts.

JOB DESCRIPTION & PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

At a glance

Salary	£25,000 to £38,000
Hours of work	37.5 hours a week
Based at	York Science Park (Flexible and remote working options considered).

Main Purpose of the Job

The primary purpose of the role is to develop and critique economic models on a wide range of projects. The candidate will be expected to work in project teams alongside other research staff and project directors. The successful candidate will report to an Associate Director or Project Director of YHEC.

Main Duties

The main responsibilities of a Research Consultant are:

- After an initial training and development period, lead the development of economic modelling projects and take responsibility for specific elements within larger projects under the supervision of senior staff.
- Critique economic analyses submitted to HTA bodies, and report directly to those bodies on the strengths and weaknesses of alternative approaches.
- Critically review published economic models to inform the development of *de novo* economic models.
- Undertake data analysis, including, individual patient level data, survival curve fitting and stochastic modelling.
- To carry out quality assurance review of models developed both within the company and for external clients.
- Attend meetings with private sector clients, clients' staff and NHS staff.
- Identify and retrieve relevant quantitative data from publications and other sources.
- Collect, analyse and interpret data.
- Report preparation and presentation to clients.
- Client liaison within a project, with the support and guidance of senior colleagues.
- Contribute to sales and marketing activities within the company.
- Occasionally provide supervision of other staff working on the project team.

Essential qualifications, knowledge, skills and attributes are:

- A post-graduate degree in health economics, mathematics, operational research, economics, statistics or a related quantitative discipline.
- Knowledge of economic evaluation approaches and techniques.
- Ability to communicate new and complex information effectively, both verbally and in writing.
- A high level of attention to detail and accuracy and a commitment to high quality.
- High competency level in using Microsoft Excel, and ideally experience in using additional software packages (R, STATA, SAS, BuGS).
- Ability to lead and/or take responsibility for a small research project or identified parts of a large project.
- Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines.
- Enthusiasm and a commitment to team working.

Candidates may be required, on occasion, to travel for business purposes (e.g. to client meetings or conferences).

Terms of Employment

Posts at YHEC are permanent and subject to regular review of performance. Staff are appointed for a trial period of six months, following which employment will be confirmed, subject to successful performance.

Salary

YHEC is able to offer a competitive salary and has conventional commercial flexibility in annual salary reviews.

The basic salary will be in the range £25,000 to £38,000 subject to qualifications and experience. There is a performance-related pay scheme in operation at YHEC. Membership of a defined contribution or defined benefit pension scheme is available subject to eligibility criteria being satisfied.

Annual leave entitlement will be 30 days per year, plus bank holidays.



THE UNIVERSITY

YHEC is a subsidiary company of The University of York and enjoys close links with academic departments. The Complete University Guide 2022 shows that overall, the University of York was ranked 18th in the UK, 1st in Yorkshire and the Humber. The University of York is a member of the prestigious Russell Group, who are a dynamic, research-intensive university. They work collaboratively in partnership with institutions across the world to develop life-saving discoveries and new technologies that tackle some of the most pressing global challenges. Their 30+ academic departments undertake ground-breaking research that underpins their inspiring teaching and challenges students to dream big, think critically and change the world. The University of York's vision is to be a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.

Attractive enjoyable workplace:

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, the University of York and YHEC are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance. The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. The self-contained campus offers a range of facilities including a sports centre, catering outlets, shops, a nursery, a doctor's surgery and banks.

The City of York:

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles – just a few of the many attractions. But York isn't just a great place to visit - it's also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city. Visit www.visitork.org for more information on the city of York.

HOW TO APPLY

The closing date for applications is **Sunday 25th July 2021 at 5pm**

To apply please send:

1. A letter of application (1 page max)
The letter should include how you meet the requirements of the role.
2. A full CV
Details of two referees (names/position/email address).
3. We assume that we are free to approach referees at any stage unless you state otherwise. If you wish a referee or referees to be approached only with specific permission and / or if they were you are invited to interview. Please clearly specify this for each referee(s). Your referees should not be related to you and should include your present or most recent employer (or, if you are a student, your education establishment).
4. Please direct all applications to charlotte.anderson@york.ac.uk quoting reference number 2112 Confidential in the subject line. Please confirm in your letter that you would be eligible to live and work in the UK as at the time of appointment.

This post is covered by The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

It is anticipated that interviews for the post will be held on **Friday 6th August 2021** via video conference. Please advise us immediately if this date is likely to be inconvenient for you. Short-listed candidates will be asked to undertake a job-specific test as part of the interview process. In addition, if you would like to talk to someone about any adjustments you may need to assist with your application process, please contact Louise Carr by emailing louise.carr@york.ac.uk to arrange a confidential conversation. Informal enquiries are encouraged, to Hayden Holmes on hayden.holmes@york.ac.uk, Michelle Green on michelle.green@york.ac.uk or Louise Carr on louise.carr@york.ac.uk.

