



**White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership (WRDTP)
Research in Practice (RinP) Placement Opportunity**

The following information has been provided by the Host Organisation and outlines the placement opportunity available. Any queries about this placement should be addressed to the Host Organisation at the details provided below.

This opportunity is aimed at Postgraduate Researchers who have funding through a Doctoral Training Partnership to undertake a placement as part of their studentship.

Please note this opportunity is being advertised at multiple universities.

Host Details	
Name of Host Organisation:	UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
Host location:	Our head office is in Canary Wharf. We also have offices in Liverpool, Bristol and Birmingham.
Brief description of the Host Organisation: <i>Please include a link to a website if you have one.</i>	<p>UK Health Security Agency - GOV.UK</p> <p>UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is an executive agency, sponsored by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). At UKHSA, our mission is to protect people’s health by preventing and responding to threats—whether that’s a new pandemic, everyday infections like influenza, or environmental dangers like radiation or extreme weather. We save lives, protect livelihoods, and work with partners across the NHS, care systems, and globally to keep communities safe.</p> <p>We’re a hub of scientific and operational expertise, tackling health challenges at every level—local, national, and international.</p> <p>The Chief Data Officer (CDO) group is the analytical powerhouse of UKHSA and plays a key role in making sure data is used safely, legally, and ethically. We support every step of the data journey—from collecting and managing information to analytics and delivering insights that drive real-world action.</p>

	If you're passionate about using data to make a difference and want to help solve big health challenges, there's a place for you here in the CDO group.
Host contact details:	<p><i>Any queries about this opportunity should be addressed to the Host Organisation.</i></p> <p>Kat Paes, CDO Partnerships Manager, UKHSA</p> <p>Kat.paes@ukhsa.gov.uk or +44 20 7123 1675.</p>

Project Description	
Placement role title: <i>e.g. Project Assistant</i>	Exploring incidences of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to identify a high-risk population profile and geographical hotspots - Project Assistant
Background/ expected impact of the project:	<p>The proposed project team within UKHSA is a collaboration across the Geospatial and Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) teams, bringing together expertise on geospatial methods and healthcare associated infections.</p> <p><i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E. coli</i>), is one of the leading Healthcare Associated infections (HCAIs) in England, as well as being amongst the most resistant to antimicrobials.</p> <p>We know from existing epidemiological data that the older aged population, and particularly men, have the highest burden of <i>E. coli</i> BSIs. We also note, incidence is greater in those of ethnic minorities groups, specifically Asian and Black ethnic groups, and those living in most deprived areas of the country (Annual Report).</p> <p>This project aims to combine these demographic factors and others to identify a high-risk population profile. In addition, we plan to explore spatial distributions of incidence and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), to identify geographical hotspots, aligned with high-risk features.</p>
Outline of duties:	<p>During this placement we would expect you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present project developments and findings through seminars and webinars e.g. UKHSA's developing Government Geography Profession, Chief Data Officer

	<p>Townhalls, the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) and at academic conferences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use spatial methods, analyse incidence data and spatial determinants of high risk linked to UPRN/geography. ● Interpret cartographic visualisations of AMR and E.coli incidence/distribution and patient characteristics e.g. deprivation, ethnicity, residential setting. ● Identify hot spots and populations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Calculate a risk profile based on data. ○ Explore if there are patterns in for example, increased UTI/diabetes in these patients. ○ If there are co-morbidities that may put them at greater risk, including investigating this spatially. ○ Explore the impact of these findings/hotspots on local hospitals to recommend management and treatment strategies. ○ Inclusion of other environmental factors, which may play a role in this, such as sewage and pollution. <p>You will be required to engage with both the Geospatial and the Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) team. Although we have a developed idea of what we would like this project to address, to ensure it aligns with other work being conducted within this area, we would like you to develop the ideas and methods further to align with their interests and professional development needs.</p>
<p>Expected output(s)/ deliverable(s):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Combine key demographic factors through spatial analysis techniques to identify a high-risk population profile. ● Produce a report outlining your key findings and recommendations to stakeholders, such as local hospitals. ● Present project findings and developments with key stakeholders of interest.

<p>Support for Postgraduate Researcher:</p>	<p>UKHSA is an excellent placement host as we have a developed culture of learning and development, fostered in an inclusive environment. To ensure that you have opportunities to expand your skillsets and to develop professionally, we can provide training in analysis, where required, but we'll also support you in engaging with subject matter experts and other early career researchers (ECR) across UKHSA.</p> <p>At UKHSA, we have a thriving ECR network led by our CDO Partnerships team. You will have the opportunity to join, and be supported by the ECR network, and by other ECRs and team members within the Geospatial team.</p> <p>After your placement you will also join our Alumni ECR Network, where you will receive exclusive insights, future opportunities and development from CDO. So, invest in your future and apply, if you think you fit the skills criteria below, we'd love to hear from you!</p>
<p>Skills and experience required for the role:</p>	<p>Essential skills - data analysis, preferably someone who has experience with spatial data and/or modelling or statistics background, good communication skills, good with MS Office software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)</p> <p>Desirable – Experience of GIS (Geographic Info Systems), coding experience - R or Python.</p>

Key Information	
<p>Placement ideal start date:</p>	<p>To be agreed with the successful candidate</p>
<p>Placement duration:</p>	<p>3 months (or part-time equivalent)</p>
<p>Full-time or part-time: <i>e.g. 37.5 hours per week or usually 18-19 hours per week</i></p>	<p>Full-time is preferred so you can fully immerse yourself in the team and project, but we will work flexibly if part-time hours are required. We do however need the placement to be undertaken in one continuous block due to IT and data access/security requirements.</p>
<p>In-person, online or hybrid:</p>	<p>The placement will be remote with the occasional office/event attendance, but this is at the successful candidate's discretion.</p> <p>If you would like to attend one of the offices more regularly, we can look at getting you a government pass.</p>

Security/ health and safety restrictions (if relevant):	Cyber security training, which you will complete when you start, and other mandatory training to use UKHSA systems.
Anticipated costs and financial support the Host can offer to help cover these (if relevant): <i>e.g. travel and subsistence costs.</i>	Any costs associated with travel or accommodation will be discussed with the successful candidate before the placement commences. In line with other funding schemes like UKRI, we can cover travel and subsistence costs up to £3,426 per 3-month placement.

How to Apply	
Closing date and time for applications:	Thursday 31 st July 17:00 GMT
Application format: <i>e.g. CV, cover letter, application form, etc</i>	CV and 1000-word (max) cover letter to evidence how you fit the project requirements, skills and what you can bring to this role.
How to submit an application:	Send your CV and cover letter (max 1000 words) to Kat Paes, CDO Partnerships Manager, UKHSA, Kat.paes@ukhsa.gov.uk with the subject line "WRDTP - AMR placement application".
Recruitment process:	<p><i>The Host Organisation is responsible for processing the applications received for this opportunity and applications will be processed as follows:</i></p> <p>Successful applicants will be invited for a short virtual interview on MS Teams with the UKHSA Geospatial team and CDO Partnerships team. The successful candidate will be informed 1-2 weeks after the interview, depending on how many interviews there are.</p> <p>The successful candidate will then be asked to sign an agreement after security checks (United Kingdom Security Vetting: Applicant - GOV.UK) have been completed. Please allow 4-6 weeks for the whole onboarding process, at the higher end if you are an international PGR holding a student visa.</p> <p><i>Civil Service eligibility criteria will apply. How to Apply Civil Service Careers (civil-service-careers.gov.uk).</i></p>