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| Host department:Cambridge |
| Project Title: |
| Screening for Atrial Fibrillation |
| Proposed supervisory team:  |
| Jonathan Mant – Professor of Primary Care Research, public healthSimon Griffin – Professor of General Practice, clinical epidemiology, trialsSteve Morris – Professor of Health EconomicsDr Jenny Burt – Senior Social Scientist THIS Institute, qualitative research |
| Potential for cross consortium networking and educational opportunities: |
| The NIHR programme involves several departments of general practice in England, there is also a parallel study based in Australia. |
| Project description: |
| An NIHR funded programme of research is being carried out to determine whether screening for atrial fibrillation with intermittent single lead ECG screening is effective at reducing the risk of stroke. The programme involves multiple overlapping methods including a randomised controlled trial of about 100,000 participants assessing benefits and harms of screening, in depth qualitative work, economic analyses and modelling, and a process evaluation. <https://www.safer.phpc.cam.ac.uk/> There are opportunities to embed a wide range of further quantitative and qualitative doctoral theses within this programme.  |

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| Training and development provision by host: |
| *Formal training:*Bespoke training will be provided depending upon the learning needs and experience of thesuccessful candidate. This will include attendance at training courses on qualitative and quantitativemethods both within and outside the University of Cambridge. The PhD student will also beencouraged to consider training courses that will benefit their wider development as an academic GP.The student will be a member of a Cambridge college.  |
| *Informal training:* The PhD will be carried out within a supportive multi-disciplinary environment that includes socialscientists, behavioural scientists, statisticians, health economists, and clinical expertise in nursing,general practice, and public health. The wider research programme involves expertise both within theUK and internationally. There are many opportunities to attend seminars and lectures within thePrimary Care Unit, the wider Department, the Institute for Public Health, the Clinical School andindeed the wider University. |
| *PPIE:* The research programme has established strong PPI/E links. We have a PPI co-applicant, who is chiefexecutive of the Atrial Fibrillation Association, which is a patient advocacy group that represents over64,000 people with atrial fibrillation. We also have three independent PPI members who areconsulted on all aspects of the programme. We also consult existing PPI groups, such as thoseconvened at the Addenbrookes. The successful applicant will be encouraged to make use of theseexisting PPI networks, but also to consider setting up new avenues for PPI/E as appropriate. |