Postgraduate Online Learning Open Days 2025

MSc Clinical Trials

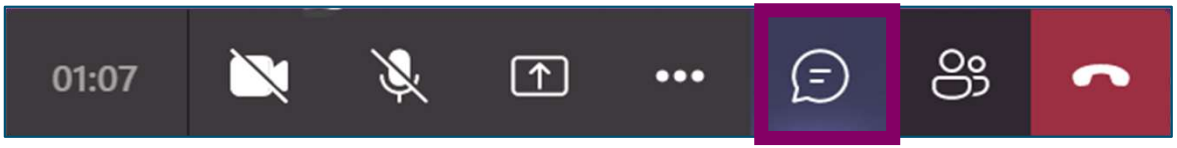
Dr Afshan Dean

12pm(BST)
21st May 2025

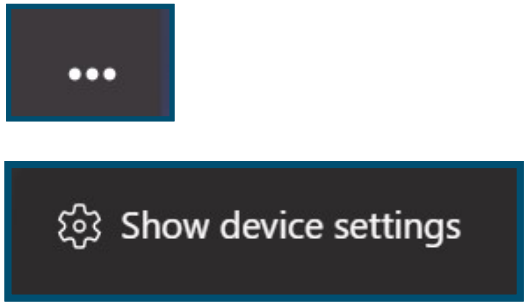
EDINBURGH
Extraordinary futures await

Audio check

- Can you hear the presenter speaking?
- Please type “no” in the Chat area if you cannot hear the presenter



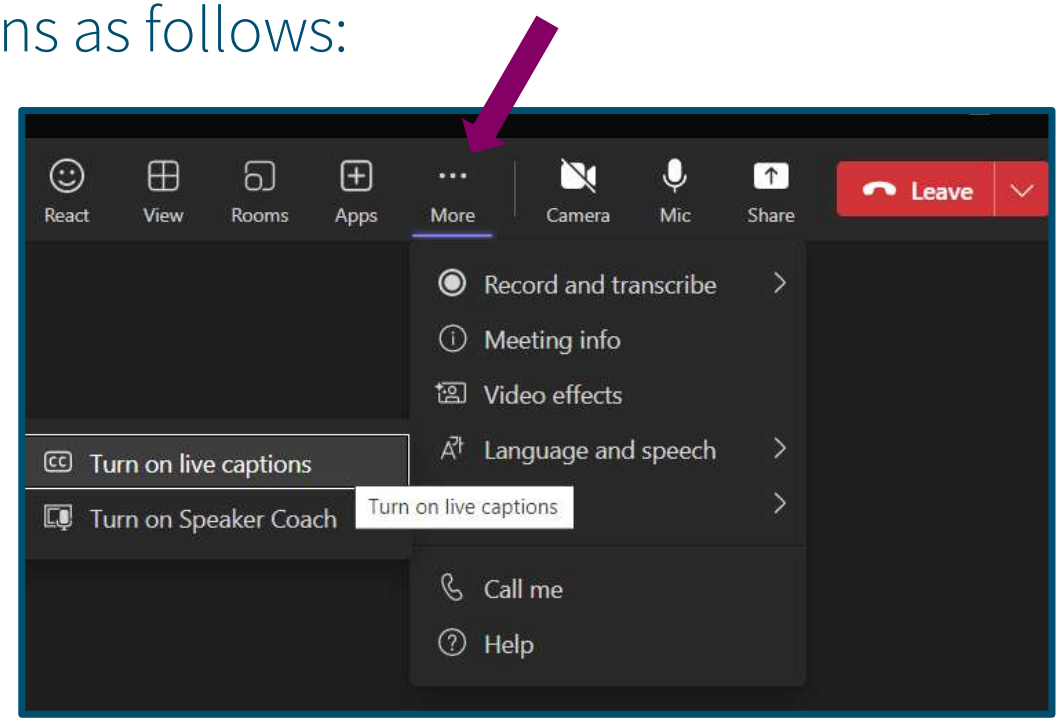
- If you can’t hear:
  - Check your settings by clicking on the three little dots on the options bar and then ‘show device settings’. Here you can check and change your speakers.
  - Try signing out and signing back into the session
  - Don’t worry, the session is being recorded



Live captions

You can turn on automated live captions as follows:

- More > Language and speech > Turn on live captions



These are automated therefore won't be 100% accurate

Recording

- Today's session is being recorded
- Any information that you provide during a session is optional and in doing so you give us consent to process this information
- If you don't want your question or name read out in public, you can email your question to futurestudents@ed.ac.uk
- Please note - a few attendees' names may be visible in the recording, if it is important that your name not be visible in the recording, please exit the session and re-enter typing in a pseudonym for yourself
- The session will be stored by the University of Edinburgh and published on our website after the event on a non-indexed web page
- ***You will be emailed with a link to watch the session recording by the end of next week***

This session will cover

- Overview of the programme
- Why should you study the programme?
- Who studies our programme?
- Structure and courses
- How will you learn?
- Career Opportunities
- Q&A Session

MSc Clinical Trials Online – Meet the (core) team

Stuart Ralston
(Programme Co-Director)

Afshan Dean
(Programme Co-Director)

VLE supported by Usher DEU team

Laura Stewart
(Programme Lecturer)

Expert course leads

Charlotte Munden
(*Programme Administrator*)

Antonia Sophocleous
(*Programme Dissertation coordinator*)

Where do we work?

usher institute

edinburgh bioQuarter

igmm
INSTITUTE OF GENETICS & MOLECULAR MEDICINE

Why study with us?

- One of the world's top universities, globally recognised for our research, development, innovation and quality of teaching
- Part-time flexible programme of study
- Support the demand for appropriately qualified health professionals
- Course lessons delivered in a variety of formats
- Individual and collaborative activities
- Suitable for professionals involved in all aspects of clinical trials or those wishing to begin or change career

Who studies our programme?

Principal Investigators

- Pharmacists
- Statisticians
- Cardiologists
- Surgeons
- Research Scientists
- ECG Analysts
- Foundation Doctors
- Medical Officers
- Lab Managers
- Research Technicians
- General Practitioners

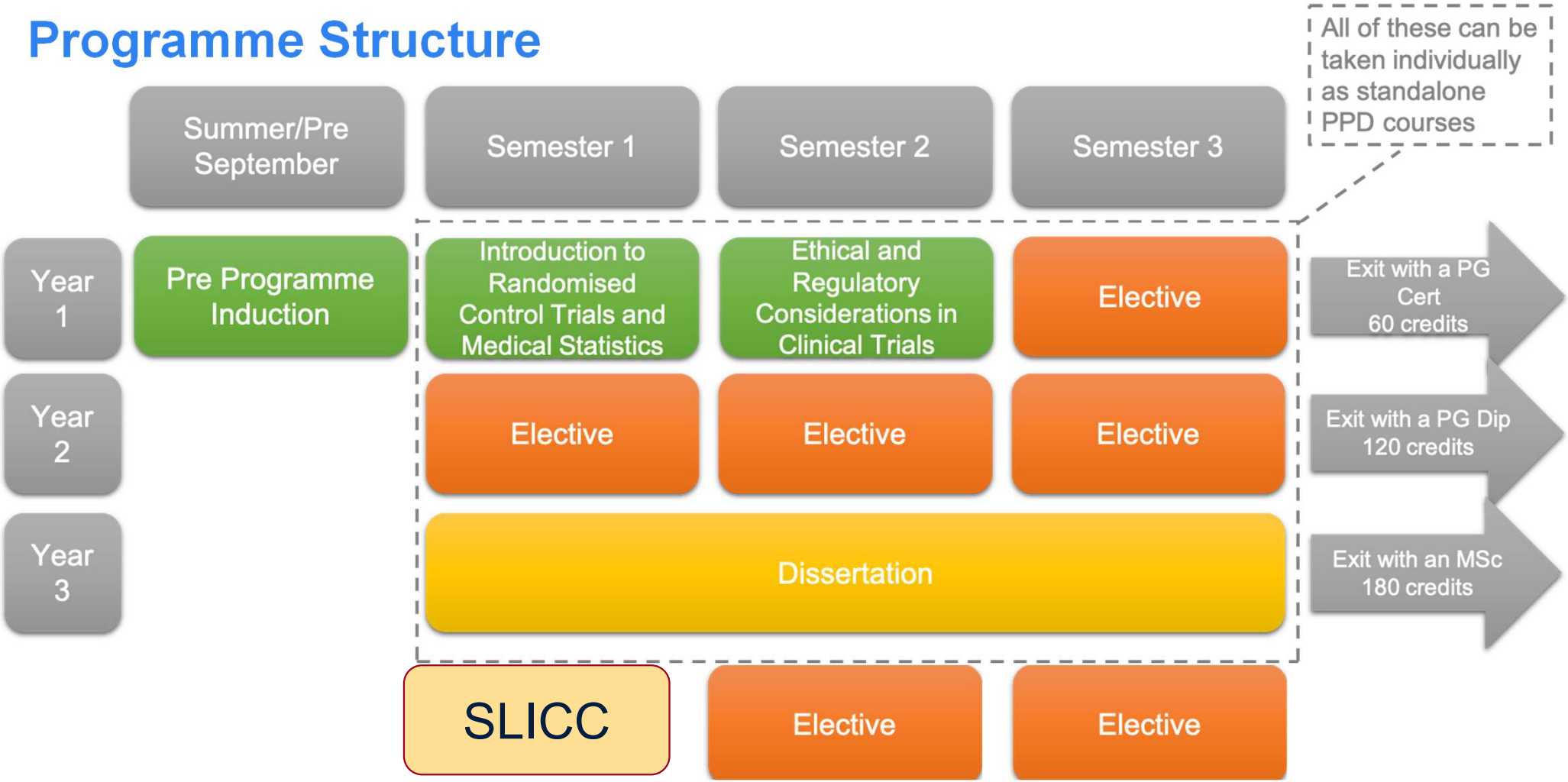
Trial Managers

- Trial Co-ordinators
- Quality Assurance Managers
- Quality Assurance Administrators
- Research Assistants
- Clinical Research Administrators
- Data Managers
- Account Managers
- Clinical Research Assistants

Research Nurses

- Physiotherapists
- Senior Research Nurses
- CRF Nurse Managers
- Dentists
- Psychologists
- Clinical Trial Translators
- Lecturers
- Audiologists

Programme Structure



Electives

- Principles of Clinical Trial Management
- Monitoring & Audit
- Pharmacovigilance
- Data Enabled Clinical trials
- Clinical Trials in Special Populations
- Patient & Public Involvement
- Trial Designs

- Health Data Science
- Data Ethics in Health and Social Care
- Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods

Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Exploring the Future of Clinical Trials: The Rise of Data Enabled Clinical Trials

The landscape of clinical trials is undergoing a significant transformation with the integration of electronic health records (EHRs) and diverse data sources to create decentralised trials. This burgeoning field presents vast opportunities but also faces numerous challenges as it evolves.

Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Exploring the Future of Clinical Trials: The Rise of Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Recognising the growing importance of this area, a unique dedicated course in Data Enabled Clinical Trials (DECT) was created — the first of its kind in the UK. This course aims to equip students with the essential knowledge and skills to thrive in this innovative domain.

Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Exploring the Future of Clinical Trials: The Rise of Data Enabled Clinical Trials

DECT leverage data routinely collected by healthcare providers, transforming how trials are conducted. The course curriculum covers a wide array of topics including data communication, EHR utilisation, ethical considerations, public trust, limitations, and future trends in clinical research methodologies.

Course Insights and Skills

Students will gain valuable insights into the rapidly evolving field of DECT, developing practical skills that they can apply in current roles or future careers. Key learning outcomes include:

1. **Understanding and Benefits**: Identifying key data sources in clinical trials and understanding the benefits and limitations of DECTs.
2. **Ethical and Regulatory Compliance**: Assessing compliance with ethical principles and meeting legal requirements in the design and conduct of trials.
3. **Critical Analysis**: Appraising published literature and evaluating data suitability across different trial stages.
4. **Effective Communication**: Learning to communicate and interpret data for both technical and non-technical audiences.
5. **Trial Design and Management**: Developing skills to design and manage trials, ensuring data integrity and regulatory compliance while collaborating with multidisciplinary teams.

Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Exploring the Future of Clinical Trials: The Rise of Data Enabled Clinical Trials

Course Structure

The course begins by introducing DECTs and their applications, progressing through topics such as:

- Future trends and innovations
- Ethical considerations and public trust
- Legal and regulatory frameworks
- Data sources, linkage, and quality
- Problem solving and limitations

Equality, diversity, and inclusivity in data

Programme Learning Outcomes:

Graduates of this programme will have:

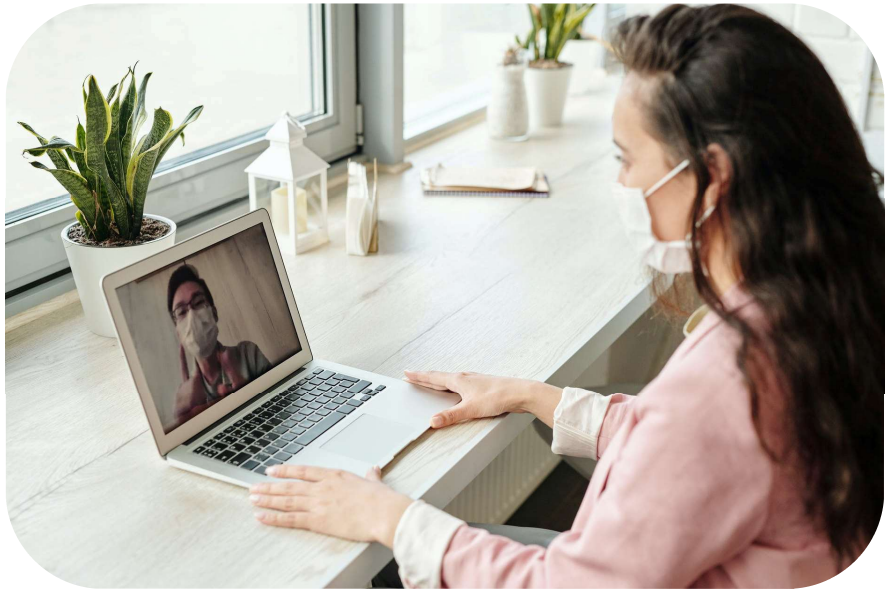
- a critical understanding of the principles, science and evidence underpinning clinical trials
- the ability to critique current approaches in clinical trial design and implementation
- the capacity to take responsibility for their own learning and development within the clinical trials environment
- the ability to communicate the design, implementation and results of clinical trials to a variety of audiences
- the resolve to work professionally and with integrity in a multi-disciplinary research team to deliver effective clinical trials
- the skills to design, implement and report clinical trials

How is the programme content taught?

- Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) called LEARN Ultra
- Range of resources and activities
- Interactive written content
- E-Books, video stories, podcasts, web resources

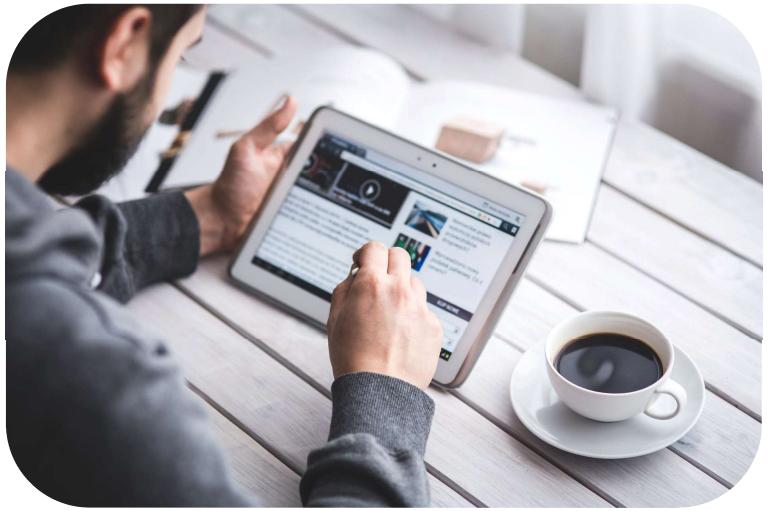
Active learning

- Collaboration and group work
- Debate and discussion
- Delivering presentations
- Blogging



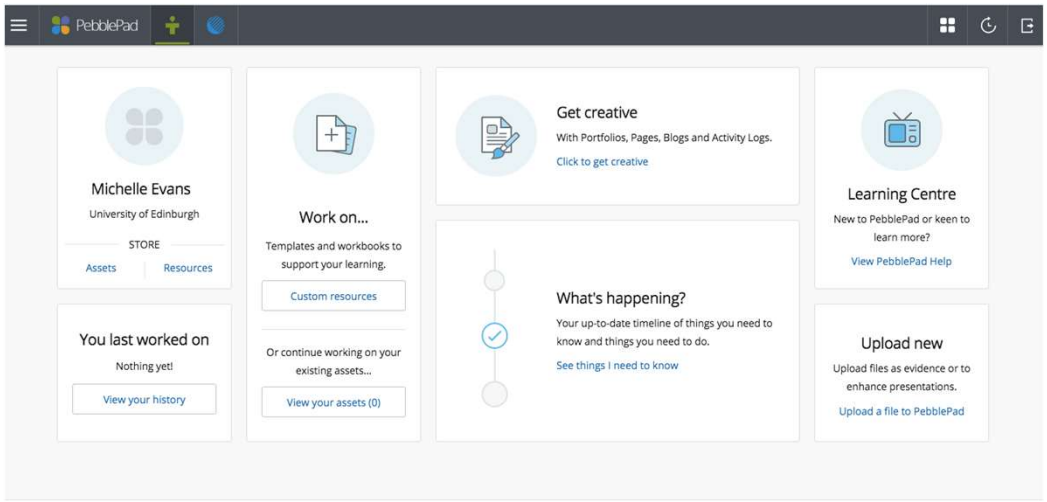
Independent learning

- Reflective practice
- Critically reviewing and appraising content
- Analysis
- MCQs/Exam
- Writing proposals/protocols



Authentic Assessment

- Individual Projects
- Group Projects
- Reflective writing/blogging
- Debating
- Graded discussion boards
- Peer assessment



Marking and feedback

- Transparent marking criteria
- Individual feedback
- Turnitin
- Double blind marking

Student support

- Induction activities
- Study guidelines and handbooks
- Library resources
- Discussion boards
- Recorded and live guest lectures
- Tutorials
- Student advisor
- Student wellbeing officer

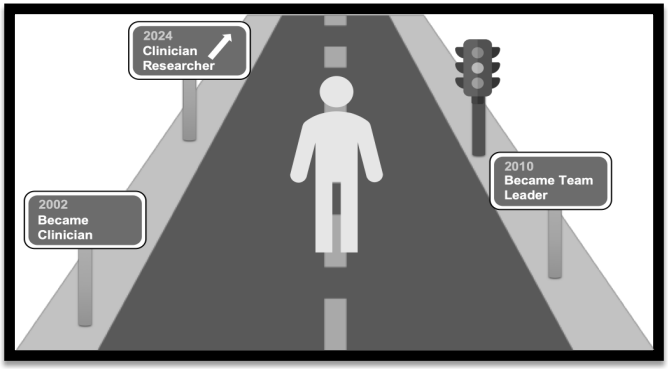
Student Voice

- Staff-Student Liaison Committee
- Student Representatives
- Regular feedback on discussion boards
- Academic cohort
- Student surveys

Career Opportunities

Key Roles

- Clinical Research (trial administrators, monitors, study managers, etc)
- Clinical Research Associate (CRA)
- Regulatory Affairs
- Pharmacovigilance (drug safety)
- Data Management, Biostatistics and Programming
- Medical Information
- Medical Science Liaisons
- Medical Affairs/Physicians
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control
- Medical Communication & Medical Writing
- Product Development



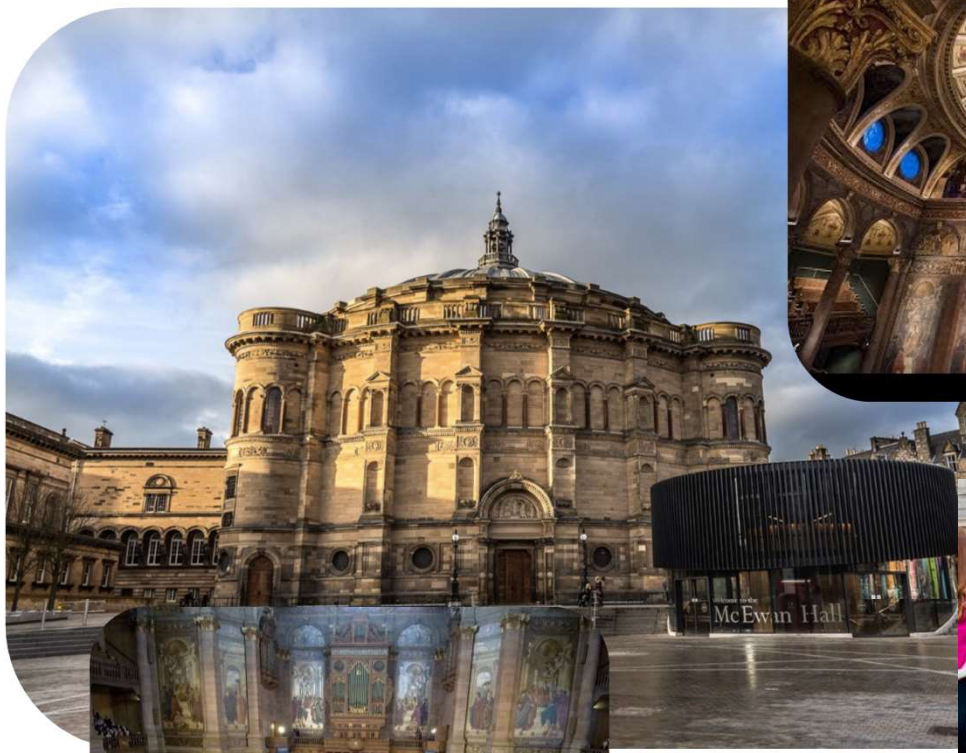
Companies

- Pharmaceutical and Biotech companies
- Contract Research Organisations (CROs)
- Public Sector (NHS, Academia, Non-profit charities)
- Medical Device and Technology companies

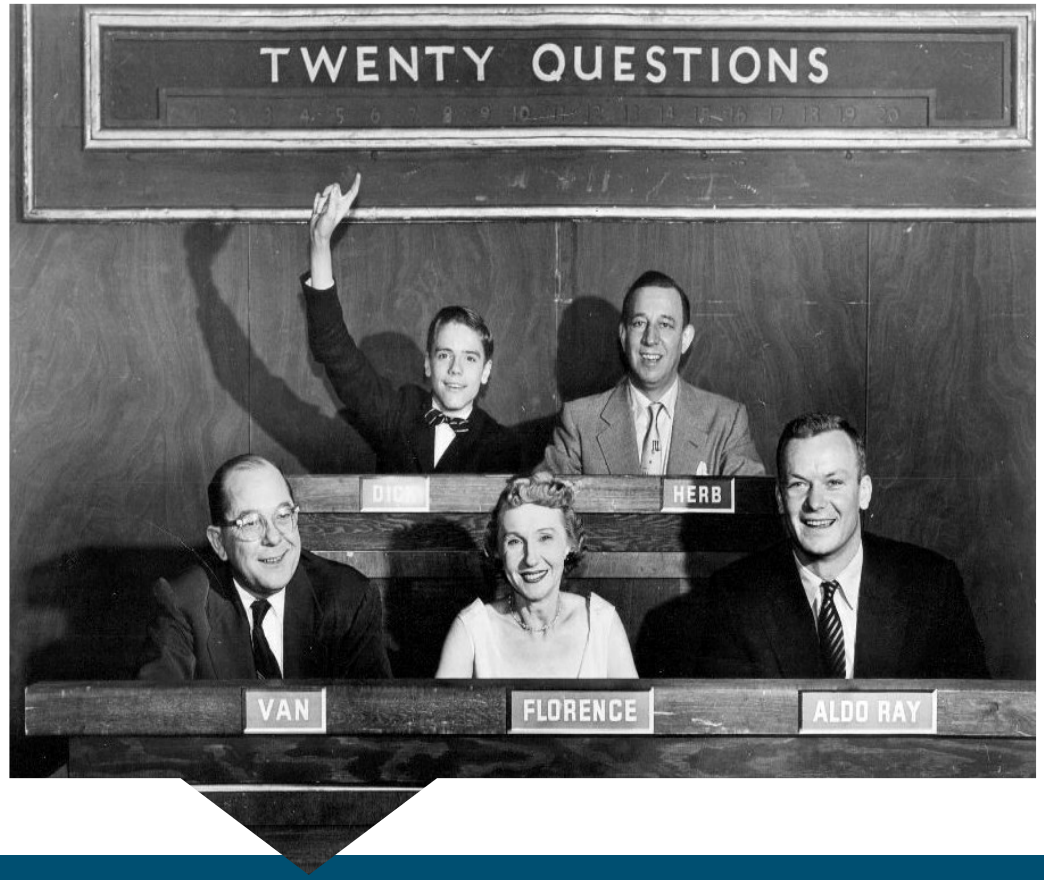
What our students are saying?

> *You can work full-time in clinical trials or a clinical background and study for this degree. I personally feel that studying with the University of Edinburgh has been the best experience for me.*
>
> — *Asha Mathews*
> *MSc Clinical Trials graduate 2018*

Graduation - McEwan Hall

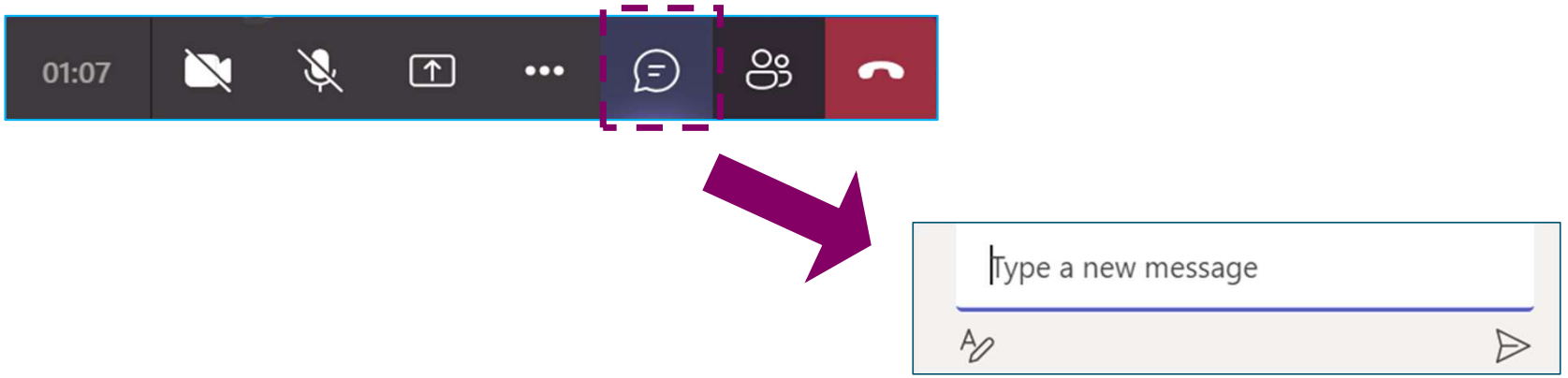


Thank you for listening….any questions?



Asking questions (Microsoft Teams)

- Type your question into the Chat Area



Contact details for follow-up questions

If you have any questions in the future, please email:

futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

Thank you

Dr Afshan Dean

Afshan.dean@ed.ac.uk

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