

## FACT SHEET 3

### Skills needed to be a successful clinical academic

When taking on a new role or aspect of your current role it's important to reflect on what skills you already have, those which need strengthening and those you need to acquire.

It can help to think about what we mean by skills, competency and strength:

**Skill:** usually acquired or learned, as opposed to abilities, which are often thought of as innate

**Competency:** behaviours needed to effectively perform in a role (soft skills)

**Strength:** “a natural capacity for behaving, thinking or feeling in a way that allows optimal functioning in the pursuit of valued outcomes”

### Examples of skills needed by clinical academics

- Clinical skills
- Scientific methods
- Statistics
- Research governance
- Critical appraisal of research publication
- Grant writing
- Formulate research questions
- Project management skills
- Leadership skills

### Capability frameworks

You may also find capability frameworks helpful to remind you of the skills you could be developing, such as the Clinical academic careers pathway capability framework for nurses, midwives and AHPs.

Learn more at [http://www.aukuh.org.uk/index.php/component/docman/doc\\_download/151-aukuh-clinical-academic-careers-capability-framework-may-2014](http://www.aukuh.org.uk/index.php/component/docman/doc_download/151-aukuh-clinical-academic-careers-capability-framework-may-2014).