Understanding parent / child interactions and family mealtimes in the context of clinically obese patients.

PhD

**Funding:** Stipend of circa £14,000 for three years  
**Start Date:** October 2016 or earlier is possible  
**Project Supervisors:** Professor Caroline Meyer and Dr Eleni Karasouli

**Project Aims**

This PhD provides an exciting opportunity to be involved in research to determine the role of parent/child feeding practices and family mealtimes in understanding obese parent and child eating behaviour.

This is a unique, interdisciplinary project combining developmental, clinical, and health psychology with medical science. The successful candidate will be located at WMG, University of Warwick, but will also be part of the Warwickshire Institute for the Study of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (WISDEM), University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW). The full scope of the work will be determined in the initial stages of the project. However, it is likely that the following research aims will be addressed:

- To determine links between retrospective reports of parental feeding strategies and current eating psychopathology among obese patients.
- To determine differences in the child feeding / mealtime practices used by obese vs. healthy-weight mothers, and consider the predictors of such practices.
- To develop an outline for a short parenting course for obese patients

**Entry Requirements:**

First or upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) in a related subject and an MSc or an MRes in a relevant discipline (e.g. psychology). They should also have a particular interest in eating and health behaviours.

The successful candidate must have excellent interpersonal skills, and be able to manage confidential information appropriately.

**Funding:**

This studentship is available to Home and EU students, according to fee status. The studentship includes full fees for the successful candidate along with a tax free maintenance allowance of circa £14,000 per annum.

**To apply:**

To submit your application, please complete our [online enquiry form](#)