

ZiHeng Liew - Physiotherapist/ Research Fellow



I graduated as a qualified physiotherapist in summer 2015 and have been working in the Physiotherapy Musculoskeletal Outpatients Department here at UHCW as a junior physiotherapist since October 2016.

I always kept myself up to date with the latest evidence through a range of sources such as research papers, blogposts and podcasts in order to ensure that my practice provides “bang for the buck”.

This has got me interested in having an academic role. There was a Research Fellow post at Warwick Clinical Trials Unit specifically for a physiotherapist and I managed to secure the position in August 2018. In my current role I am in charge of the day to day

management of the ARTISAN study which is a randomised controlled trial about the role of rehabilitation following a traumatic acute shoulder dislocation. Apart from my research role, I also have an honorary contract with University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust, working in the Physiotherapy Musculoskeletal Outpatients Department once a week. Having a clinical role whilst in an academic post enables me to still keep in touch with my clinical practice as well as to inform prospective research projects that I might dedicate myself into in the future.

Despite having only been in post for 1 year, I have gained valuable insight in the world of academic research. Apart from having the understanding of conducting a nationwide randomised control trial, I also have the opportunity to dedicate some time to be involved in various research projects with my colleagues in the trials unit, whilst not having to sacrifice my clinical role entirely.

Currently I am looking forward in conducting the qualitative interview study for the ARTISAN trial which is scheduled to start by the end of this year. My research career is only at its infancy at present but I am confident that under the supervision of my mentors and colleagues I will be able move up the ranks soon.

