



Job Description

Job title	Research Fellow
Department/School	Pharmacy & Pharmacology
Job family	Education and Research
Grade	8
Reporting to	Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Investigator (CI) for area of research
Responsible for	Research students and/or other research staff
Location	University of Bath premises

Background and context

This post offers an exciting and challenging opportunity for an epidemiologist or medical statistician to develop or extend existing project management experience, initiate and undertake his/her original research and to develop significant collaborative working and negotiation skills.

The Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology www.bath.ac.uk/pharmacy is an internationally renowned Department with over 90% of our research rated as world leading or internationally excellent in the 2014 REF exercise and has recently been awarded a Silver Athena SWAN award. The Musculoskeletal Medicine Research Group, within the Health and Clinical Research Theme, <http://www.bath.ac.uk/pharmacy/research/health-and-clinical-research/index.html> is a multidisciplinary team of epidemiologists, clinicians (rheumatologists), statisticians and basic scientists with international reputations within their respective fields and strong collaborative working links with local and national NHS trusts and academic and clinical networks nationally and internationally. The group has research interests within both musculoskeletal medicine and pharmacoepidemiology, particularly drug safety in pregnancy.

We are currently in our third year of a five-year (end date November 2020), £2 million, NIHR-funded programme grant on the early detection of psoriatic arthritis that involves seven studies and twelve institutions. The programme is well established and currently running on time and within budget. The postdoctoral researcher will be responsible for the day-to-day management of this programme of work which involves close liaison with study leads and the funder and the delivery of programme reports and programme management documentation.

Job purpose

We are looking for an experienced postdoctoral epidemiologist or medical statistician who has experience of research project management and is keen to extend their skills and experience into programme management for the remaining 2.5 years of our five-year NIHR funded programme grant on the early detection of psoriatic arthritis. This will require the post-holder to maintain strong collaborative working relationships with researchers from twelve institutions across the UK and with our Patient Research Partners and other stakeholders. The role involves the day-to-day management of the programme grant (including finance and any contract amendments with the support of the Research and Development Manager and solicitors at the Royal United Hospital, Bath), management of all outputs of the programme, including data and publications, organisation of stakeholder meetings, programme website development and co-ordinating and writing the annual and final reports to the funder.

Whilst the group has existing research interests in musculoskeletal medicine, general pharmacoepidemiology and drug safety in pregnancy, we would encourage epidemiologists with interests outside of these research areas to apply for the post, particularly those with significant experience of using linked electronic medical health record databases. The post-holder will have the opportunity to develop their own area of research interest and build their own research group through applying for funding with the support of senior academic staff both within the group and across the University or other institutions.

Main duties and responsibilities

1	Conduct individual and/or collaborative research projects that result in high impact research in epidemiology or medical statistics. Develop research objectives, projects and proposals. Set standards by scoping projects and managing its delivery (e.g. timeline, budget, quality) to fulfil research grant proposals. This post is funded through and NIHR programme grant and therefore the primary responsibility will be to manage this programme through to its completion.
2	Publish in high quality peer-reviewed journals appropriate to the discipline.
3	Attract sources of funding either individually or as part of a team.
4	Contribute to the supervision, training and research of graduate students and undergraduate project students and the assessment of student knowledge. Train and support colleagues in developing their research techniques.
5	Develop and sustain an external research profile and reputation and international research links through activities such as:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas research visits • Conference presentations • Conference organisation • Refereeing • Public engagement activities
6	Promote and engage in interdisciplinary research activities.
7	Bring funding into the department through consultancy, exploitation of intellectual property rights, or other knowledge or technology-transfer activities (where appropriate).
8	Disseminate knowledge of research advances to inform the departmental teaching effort.
9	Provide input into wider departmental work and planning.
	You will from time to time be required to undertake other duties of a similar nature as reasonably required by your line manager. You are required to follow all University policies and procedures at all times and take account of University guidance.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
A PhD degree in subject area of direct relevance for the project, or equivalent significant relevant experience and professional qualification	√	
Experience/Knowledge		
This criteria will be referenced to the appendix 3 of the Career Progression in the Education and Research Job Family document.		
Postdoctoral experience in a relevant research field	√	
Established area of independent expertise in research demonstrating a commitment to the highest standards of ethics and integrity in research;	√	
Demonstrated expertise and knowledge in the latest developments in the field of research and in research design	√	
Demonstrated potential to attract research funds	√	
Demonstrated a sustained and auditable research record of outputs and a portfolio of articles published in high quality peer-reviewed journals and/or conference proceedings (or other outputs appropriate to the discipline, e.g. books/book chapters/portfolio of commercially sensitive reports) based on their work.	√	
Record of successful supervision of researchers	√	
Understanding of university research funding mechanisms		√
Engagement with relevant national and international research communities		√

Skills		
Excellent presentation and communication skills (e.g. in publishing and presenting research, training and outreach activities) – both oral and written	√	
An inspiring research supervisor with broad interests across the subject area with effective people management skills	√	
Leadership, organisational and administrative skills	√	
Strong expertise and ability in the preparation of research proposals, conducting individual research work and the dissemination of results and impact	√	
Ability to organise and prioritise own and others' workloads	√	
Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes	√	
High level of proficiency in experimental techniques (as appropriate to discipline)	√	
Proficiency in utilising IT to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of research work (as appropriate to discipline)	√	
Attributes		
Versatile, innovative and developing creative solutions	√	
Commitment to excellence in research, and to providing the highest quality experience for students	√	
Ability to be an effective interdisciplinary team worker	√	
Commitment to safe working practices	√	
Commitment to working within professional and ethical codes of conduct	√	
Commitment to collaborative and interdisciplinary research	√	