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**Job Description**

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| **Job title** | Research Assistant |
| **Department/School** | The Addiction and Mental Health Group (AIM), Department of Psychology |
| **Job family** | Education and Research |
| **Grade** | 6 |
| **Reporting to** | Principal Investigator (PI) – Dr Gemma Taylor |
| **Responsible for** | No staff management responsibilities |
| **Location** | University of Bath premises |

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| **Background and context** |
| **Background:** Tobacco is the world’s leading preventable cause of disease and death. In the UK and in other developed nations smoking prevalence has significantly declined in the general population, but has remained unchanged in those with mental health problems resulting in an excess burden of smoking-related mortality in this group. People with depression and anxiety are twice as likely to smoke and are less responsive to standard tobacco treatments than the general population, leading to a call for population-targeted interventions.  **Aims:** This research aims to work in collaboration with clinicians, service users and academics to co-design a bespoke smoking cessation intervention and to examine its feasibility and acceptability in community mental health settings.  **Methods:** This project involves two work-streams: 1) Co-design a bespoke smoking cessation intervention for delivery across IAPT and the local stop smoking services; 2) Test the intervention’s feasibility and acceptability in terms of: recruitment, retention, and engagement with treatment, therapist fidelity, trial procedures, patient and clinician acceptability of the intervention, and implementation quality.  **Context:** The successful candidate will be working on the ESCAPE study, more information available on the Open Science Framework <https://osf.io/d79ax/>, and will predominately be involved in collecting and analysing data for three projects:   * A systematic review titled “Impact of variation in functions and delivery on the effectiveness of behavioural and mood management interventions for smoking cessation in people with depression”. Protocol available here: <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/7/11/e018617>. * Analysing qualitative data from interviews with IAPT service users and therapists. * Collecting data about intervention implementation for the ESCAPE trial, protocol available here: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40814-018-0385-2>.   For informal inquiries please contact: Dr Gemma Taylor, Assistant Professor in Clinical Psychology, g.m.j.taylor@bath.ac.uk. |

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| **Job purpose** |
| To provide subject-specific research assistance to a Principal Investigator (PI)/Co-Investigator (CI) and their research team for a specified grant. |

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| **Main duties and responsibilities** | |
| **1** | Assist with research by:   * Conducting literature and database searches; * Collecting qualitative and quantitative data; * Conducting qualitative analyses; * Contributing to manuscripts. |
| **2** | Provide support to PI and other research staff with project management (for example, organising meetings and corresponding with partners). |
| **3** | Contribute to the production of research reports and publications. |
| **4** | Participate regularly in group meetings and prepare and deliver presentations to research team. |
| **5** | Conduct administrative tasks associated with the projects. |
| **6** | Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism to inform research activity. |
|  | 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**

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications** |  |  |
| A first degree (BA/BSc) in a subject relevant to the research activity | √ |  |
| Master level qualification in psychology, research methods or related field | √ |  |
| Full UK drivers license | √ |  |
| **Experience/Knowledge** |  |  |
| Relevant work experience in a related area to the project | √ |  |
| Demonstrated depth and breadth of specialist knowledge of subject matter to effectively contribute to the research programme | √ |  |
| Demonstrated awareness of latest developments in the field of research | √ |  |
| **Skills** |  |  |
| Ability to organise and prioritise own workload to meet required deadlines | √ |  |
| Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes | √ |  |
| Excellent verbal, interpersonal and written communication skills | √ |  |
| Highly competent in IT packages as appropriate to discipline/area of research | √ |  |
| **Attributes** |  |  |
| Commitment to working within professional and ethical codes of conduct | √ |  |
| Innovation and developing creative solutions | √ |  |
| Self-confidence when communicating with a wide range of stakeholders | √ |  |
| Commitment to safe working practices | √ |  |
| Ability to work independently | √ |  |
| Commitment to excellence in research | √ |  |
| Ability to be an effective team worker | √ |  |