Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: Centre for Public Health
Reference: 19/107479
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 June 2019
Salary: £33,199 - £39,610 per annum (potential to progress to £43,266 per annum through sustained exceptional contribution)
Anticipated Interview Date: Wednesday 10 July 2019
Duration: 12 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The aims of this research are to develop and test:

i) an App version ('Brain Fit' app) from a paper-based rehabilitation manual ("The Healthy Brain Rehabilitation Manual') for use in the TIA/'minor' stroke population; and,

ii) a cardiovascular risk factor assessment tool for use in primary care.

The study will involve undertaking a systematic review of previous studies to identify potentially relevant Apps which have been developed for use in the TIA/'minor' stroke population. The researcher will conduct semi-structured interviews and 'think aloud' sessions with patients, family members and health professionals in order to facilitate the development of the App. A pilot study of the App will be undertaken with patients, followed by focus groups at the end of the pilot study. A similar process will be undertaken for development of the cardiovascular risk factor assessment tool.

This study is funded by Northern Ireland Chest, Heart and Stroke (NICHS).

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To work as a member of the Health Services Research Group within the Centre for Public Health, School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Science, Queen's University Belfast.
2. To develop and maintain close working relationships with key stakeholder groups relevant to dependent older adults.
3. To conduct a systematic review of previous studies to identify potentially relevant Apps for use in the TIA/'minor' stroke population.
4. To conduct semi-structured interviews and focus groups with key informants and stakeholder groups.
5. To manage the safe and accurate identification, collection and storage of data.
6. To undertake data entry and analysis (including some transcription).
7. To analyse quantitative and qualitative data.
8. To develop and maintain ongoing good relationships between the programme team, community representatives and other relevant stakeholders.
9. To draft and present regular progress reports as well as the final report to the funder.
10. To draft and present regular progress reports on research for the research team, research funders and external audiences.
11. To prepare, in consultation with the research team, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
12. To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that the work is completed on time. These might include for example, organisation of project meetings and documentation and financial control.
13. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
14. Any other duties related to the successful achievement of the above duties.

Planning and Organising:

1. To plan for the use of research resources where appropriate using these in an effective and efficient manner.
2. To plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
3. Feedback and liaise with research supervisor/(s) on work progress.

4.   To coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group regarding progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:
1.   To ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2.   Contribute to the advance planning of research projects, reports, publications etc.

Internal and External Relationships:
1.   To liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students on routine matters.
2.   Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3.   Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:
1.   Have or about to attain a PhD in Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition, Psychology, or a closely related discipline.
2.   At least 3 years of recent relevant research experience in one of the following fields (or a closely related field): Public Health, Nursing or Nutrition.
3.   Experience of managing and analysing data generated from patient/participant based research and use of appropriate databases, e.g. SPSS and NVivo.
4.   Experience of undertaking (design, execution and reporting) qualitative and mixed-methods research.
5.   Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a research team.
6.   Excellent IT skills.
7.   Excellent organisational skills.
8.   Excellent inter-personal skills.
9.   Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
10.   Excellent oral and written communication skills.
11.   Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
12.   Clear and confident communicator.
13.   Ability to give formal presentations.
14.   Ability to communicate with non-academic audiences.
15.   Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
16.   Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary.
17.   Access to transport or ability to meet mobility requirements for the post and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:
1.   Good publication track record commensurate with experience.
2.   Experience of management of databases and statistical packages e.g.SPSS.
3.   Proven ability to participate in or initiate collaborative research.
4.   Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
5.   Strong commitment to a career in research.