

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Centre for Public Health
Reference:	19/107712
Closing Date:	Wednesday 11 September 2019
Salary:	£33,199 to £35,210 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 26 September 2019
Duration:	Full time for 42 months and will then move to 0.6 FTE until 30 June 2024

JOB PURPOSE:

The postholder will work on a research programme to examine food-based biomarkers, diet quality and cardiometabolic health. Specifically, the postholder will conduct a dietary assessment validation study, followed by a randomised controlled parallel group dietary intervention to evaluate the efficacy of personalised dietary advice, based on biomarkers, in improving diet quality and cardiometabolic health.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To work as part of the Nutrition research group within the Centre for Public Health, School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences and Institute for Global Food Security, Queen's University Belfast.
2. To complete a dietary validation study of a new diet quality score, previously evaluated in US populations.
3. To conduct a randomised controlled parallel group dietary intervention study to evaluate the efficacy of personalised dietary advice, based on biomarkers, in improving diet quality and cardiometabolic health.
4. To assist with ethical and research governance procedures.
5. To present regular progress reports for the research team or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
6. To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research programme to ensure that project activities are completed on time and within budget, including organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control and risk assessment of research activities.
7. To prepare manuscripts based on the results of this work as appropriate for submission to peer review journals.
8. To present work as appropriate at local, national and international conferences.
9. To review scientific literature and develop new nutrition-related research projects.
10. To assist with the submission of associated grant applications and the supervision of doctoral students.
11. Any other duties related to the successful achievement of the above research programme.

Planning and Organising:

1. To plan for delivery of specific deliverables of the research project's scientific outputs on time.
2. To plan for the use of research resources as appropriate.
3. To plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
4. To plan to meet deadlines for journal publications and abstract submissions.
5. 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. To provide support and guidance as required to staff and students assisting with the research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. To liaise on a regular basis with colleagues, students and key stakeholders.

2. To maintain existing and establish new internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
3. To maintain existing and establish new external networks to share information and ideas.
4. To contribute to the School's outreach programme by maintaining existing and establishing new links with stakeholders and project partners.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in Nutrition or a closely related discipline.
2. At least three years recent relevant experience of human nutrition or other relevant research.
3. Experience of dietary assessment and analysis.
4. Experience of conduct of dietary assessment method validation studies.
5. Experience of management and co-ordination of human intervention studies.
6. A good publication track record commensurate with experience.
7. Experience of management of databases and statistical packages e.g. SPSS.
8. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks and contribute to broader management tasks.
9. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
10. Excellent IT skills e.g. Microsoft Office suite.
11. Excellent organisational skills.
12. Excellent inter-personal skills.
13. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
14. Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
15. Clear and confident communicator.
16. Ability to give formal presentations.
17. Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a research team.
18. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
19. Ability to act decisively and confidently.
20. Access to transport or ability to meeting the mobility requirements of the post and a willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.
21. Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of dietary biomarker analysis.
2. Experience of process evaluation and/or qualitative research methods.
3. Experience of undertaking a range of community engagement, outreach and dissemination activities.
4. Proven ability to participate in or initiate collaborative research.
5. Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
6. Experience of public engagement activities and disseminating research to non-academic audiences.
7. Strong commitment to a career in research