

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow (Cancer Screening Data Analysis)

School/Department: Centre for Public Health

Reference: 21/108743

Closing Date: Monday 26 April 2021

Salary: £33,797 - £36,914 per annum

Anticipated Interview Date: Friday 7 May 2021

Duration: 12 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The principal aim of the post is to undertake statistical analysis, project management of data linkages, and writing of publications relating to an audit of Pathology data from the Northern Ireland Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (2010-2020). A high technical competence in statistical analysis and experience of working with large datasets is essential.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- To clean and prepare datasets, apply statistical techniques, and develop descriptive publications relating to an audit of Pathology findings from 10 years (approximately 25,000 specimens) of a faecal-occult-blood-based Bowel Cancer Screening programme. The focus of the resulting outputs will be on evolving practice and educational lessons for pathologists reporting such specimens.
- 2. To liaise closely with research team members Professor Helen Coleman and Dr Maurice Loughrey (Northern Ireland Bowel Cancer Screening Programme Pathology lead) to successfully undertake the data analysis.
- 3. To co-ordinate the linkage of this data with Cancer Registry and other relevant datasets.
- 4. Contribute to epidemiological projects related to this research as and when appropriate.
- 5. Draft and present regular progress reports on research for the research team, or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
- 6. Prepare, in consultation with the research team, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
- 7. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that the work is completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
- 8. Assistance with supervision of postgraduate research, MPH and BSc students who may be working on related research.
- 9. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

Planning and Organising:

- 1. To plan for the use of research resources where appropriate.
- 2. To plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
- 3. To plan to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
- 4. 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 guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

- 1. To liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students.
- 2. To build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.

3. To join external networks to share information and ideas.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- 1. A primary degree in a health-related subject or mathematics/statistics.
- 2. Have or be about to obtain a relevant PhD in epidemiology, public health, applied statistics or related subjects that include a substantive quantitative data analysis component.
- 3. At least 3 years' recent research experience and skills relevant to this project e.g. database management, statistical analysis, working with large epidemiological datasets.
- 4. Experience of using statistical packages such as STATA.
- 5. A publication record commensurate with stage of career.
- 6. Sufficient breadth and depth of knowledge in research methods and techniques pertinent to cancer epidemiology.
- 7. Ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
- 8. Excellent IT skills e.g. Microsoft Office suite.
- 9. Excellent organisational skills.
- 10. Excellent inter-personal skills.
- 11. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- 12. Ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
- 13. Good presentation skills.
- 14. Articulate, fluent.
- 15. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
- 16. Access to transport and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. Experience of colorectal cancer epidemiology research.
- 2. Experience of population screening research.
- 3. Major contribution to authorship of articles in international scientific peer reviewed journals, commensurate with stage of career.
- 4. Strong commitment to a career in research.