

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Centre for Public Health
Reference:	21/108788
Closing Date:	Friday 14 May 2021
Salary:	£33,797 to £36,914 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 25 May 2021
Duration:	This post is available until 31 October 2022

JOB PURPOSE:

This exciting position will allow the successful candidate to join a collaborative research project between Queen's University Belfast and the University of Aberdeen investigating the epidemiology of, and healthcare service provision for multiple myeloma (MM) within the United Kingdom.

The successful candidate will become a member of the Centre for Public Health research team working alongside Dr Charlene McShane in a program of research funded by Myeloma UK.

This research project aims to investigate MM patterns, trends and service provision. A range of methodologies will be employed including using population-based cancer registry data to make future projections for MM incidence and mortality within the UK. Additional data will be collected through surveys and other available sources to determine local healthcare service provision and, to investigate the impact of geographical factors/barriers on important patient outcomes. The findings of this study will assist key decision makers including Myeloma UK in designing future service and support provision to meet the needs of MM patients and their families within the UK.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research under supervision from the study team, and help to create a collaborative and supportive environment as a member of the research team.
2. Undertake detailed epidemiological, statistical and geographical analysis of myeloma incidence, prevalence, survival and mortality data, using appropriate techniques and packages.
3. To coordinate and prepare research ethics applications and updates.
4. To coordinate the design, collection, documentation, and storage of relevant project data.
5. Carry out data analyses, critical evaluations, and generate reports using appropriate methods.
6. Draft and present regular progress reports on research for research supervisors or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. Prepare, in consultation with supervisors, material for publication in national and international journals, presentations at international conferences, and reports for lay audiences.
8. Assist research team in the preparation of project progress reports to funding and external bodies, as well as of new funding proposals and applications.
9. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that the work is completed on time and within budget, and that the group functions efficiently. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities etc.
10. Assist with the training and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students, and visiting researchers involved with the project.
11. Keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines and engage in technical training as needed.
12. Participate and in some cases lead outreach activities on behalf of the group or the Centre.
13. Follow University's, School's, and Centre's policies and regulations.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for the use of research resources where appropriate using these in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Plan own day-to-day activity within the scope of the agreed research program.
3. Assist and in some cases lead plans for research activities when appropriate.
4. Meet deadlines for grant applications, journal publications, and presentations and papers for conferences and meetings.
5. Feedback and liaise with research supervisor/(s) on work progress.
6. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the project team and other research groups to complete tasks within deadlines.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any undergraduate and postgraduate students and visiting researchers who may be assisting with research.
3. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports and publications etc. usually 1-6 months in advance.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise on a regular basis with supervisor, colleagues, students, and collaborators.
2. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Join external networks to share information and ideas and help develop external collaborations, as appropriate.
4. Develop strong collaborative relationships with researchers in the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry and University of Aberdeen.
5. Be prepared to travel to and present at scientific meetings and partner research groups and stakeholders.
6. Contribute to the School's outreach program by establishing links with local community groups, industries, governmental organisations etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a relevant PhD in epidemiology, public health, applied mathematics/statistics or related discipline.(PhD thesis must be submitted at time of application.)
2. At least 3 years' research experience relevant to this project e.g. database management, statistical analysis, working with, and analysing cancer registry data, designing and carrying out research surveys.
3. Experience of using statistical packages such as STATA.
4. Demonstrated ability to conduct key tasks for the development and completion of research projects, such as ethics approval, data collection, preparation of data analysis plan, and reporting.
5. Contribution to authorship of articles in international scientific peer reviewed journals, commensurate with stage of career.
6. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of 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 or ability to meet the mobility requirements of the post and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Previous experience in research projects that deliver against targets and timelines, preferably within an interdisciplinary environment.
2. Experience working in public health or epidemiology.
3. Grant writing experience.
4. Demonstrated ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
5. Strong commitment to a career in research.
6. Willingness to supervise and train undergraduate and postgraduate students and visiting researchers.

7. Willingness to contribute to the School's outreach program.