

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow (Maternity Cover)
School/Department: Centre for Public Health
Reference: 21/108952
Closing Date: Monday 26 July 2021
Salary: £33,797 - £40,322 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Tuesday 10 August 2021
Duration: 39-week fixed term contract to 30 November 2021

JOB PURPOSE:

To work on a maternal health project funded as part of the Cross-border Healthcare Intervention Trials in Ireland Network (CHITIN), managed by the Public Health Agency R&D office.

The aim of the project is to support the development and delivery of a new habit-based diet and lifestyle intervention to overweight or obese pregnant women on the Island of Ireland, and to explore options for integration of this lifestyle intervention into existing antenatal care pathways.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To be responsible for the set-up and day-to-day running of the study including development of the intervention, development of the RCT protocol, execution of the study protocol, data collection (qualitative and quantitative), data entry and data management and analysis.
2. To build and maintain close working relationship with the clinical partner sites (maternity units) across NI and ROI.
3. To assist with exploration of inter-operability issues in NI and ROI with regard to the structure of existing antenatal care pathways and the format of routinely collected data in each jurisdiction.
4. To ensure adherence to project milestones.
5. To assist with ethical and research governance procedures in relation to this project.
6. To draft and present regular progress reports on research for the research team, research funders and external audiences.
7. To prepare, in consultation with the research team, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
8. 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, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
9. To assist with supervision of PhD, Masters and Undergraduate students who may be working on related research.
10. To 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. 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. 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. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in Medicine, Nutrition, Dietetics or a closely related discipline.
2. At least three years recent, relevant experience of research in human nutrition, obesity or other closely related areas.
3. Experience of successful set-up, management, co-ordination and reporting of a human study.
4. Experience of undertaking (design, execution and reporting) qualitative research.
5. Experience of recruiting, retaining and engaging with participants for research.
6. Experience of preparing ethical approval paperwork for a human study.
7. Experience using statistical software packages, e.g. SPSS or similar.
8. Experience of conducting dietary assessment and analysis.
9. Excellent IT skills.
10. Excellent organisational skills.
11. Excellent inter-personal skills.
12. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
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. Ability to communicate with non-academic audiences.
18. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
19. Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary.
20. Access to transport and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.
21. Completion of satisfactory Criminal History Checks.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a research team.
2. Recent experience in the area of maternal health.
3. Good publication track record commensurate with experience.
4. Experience of management of databases and statistical packages e.g.SPSS.
5. Proven ability to participate in or initiate collaborative research.
6. Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
7. Strong commitment to a career in research.