

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant
School/Department:	Nursing and Midwifery
Reference:	22/109957
Closing Date:	Monday 1 August 2022
Salary:	£28,756 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 19 August 2022
Duration:	Available on a fixed term contract until 31 August 2024.

JOB PURPOSE:

The School of Nursing and Midwifery are seeking to appoint a Research Assistant to become an active member of a project team led by Dr Gary Mitchell. The aim of this project is to co-design a digital intervention to improve care home staff understanding of Heart failure (HF), and subsequently to optimise quality of life (QOL). QOL for people living with HF within care homes. HF affects at least 20% of residents living in care homes, leading to increased morbidity, increased mortality and impaired QOL. There are limited educational interventions to improve care home staff understanding to better support their residents to live well with HF.

The successful applicant will work closely with the team to complete a range of research activities including a systematic review of the literature, a Delphi study, qualitative fieldwork and a mixed methods evaluation.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Support the project team to deliver various research activities including a systematic review of the literature, qualitative data collection and analysis, quantitative data collection and analysis (a Delphi survey and paired t-tests).
2. Support the project team to obtain ethical approval for this study.
3. Develop topic expertise in heart failure nursing and care home nursing to support intervention build.
4. Assist the research team to design the digital intervention about heart failure in care homes with input from external stakeholders.
5. Take a leading role in disseminating findings of this study through conference presentation and journal article preparation.
6. Support and mentor 3-4 student research interns (undergraduate nursing students).
7. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
8. Carry out undergraduate teaching/supervision under direction.
9. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager, and which fall within the general ambit of the post.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. First Class Honours Degree or equivalent in subject relevant to healthcare or social science discipline.
2. A minimum of 1 year's relevant research or professional experience in at least one of the following areas:
 1. Care Homes & Older People.
 2. Heart Failure.
3. A minimum of 1 year's relevant research experience in at least two of the following areas:
 1. Literature Reviews
 2. Qualitative Research Methods
 3. Quantitative Research Methods (specifically paired t-tests & Delphi surveys).
4. Willingness to contribute to undergraduate teaching as necessary.
5. Knowledge of obtaining ethical approval for research.
6. Ability to interact with research colleagues and support staff.
7. Ability to analyse and communicate effectively.
8. Demonstrable intellectual ability.

9. Ability to work independently.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. May be working towards a PhD or post graduate qualification.
2. Practical experience of caring for people living in a care home setting and/or people living with heart failure.
3. Track record of peer-reviewed publications commensurate with experience.
4. Knowledge of obtaining ethical approval via OREC NI.