

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	School of Psychology
Reference:	22/110114
Closing Date:	Monday 3 October 2022
Salary:	£35,333 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 21 October 2022
Duration:	Available until 31 August 2025

JOB PURPOSE:

To work on the behavioural science AVACTA work package led by Dr Gillian Shorter and Dr Anne Moore at University College Cork. This aims to develop tailored interventions to address vaccine uptake across the island and develop a set of implementable guidelines to aid national and regional health authorities to increase vaccine uptake.

To support the mixed methods approach and explore how individuals' capabilities, opportunities, and motivations influence their decision-making behaviour, and how the setting including societal, community, sociodemographic factors, and healthcare impact on vaccine confidence and use. Successful application of behaviour change theory and intervention mapping will be central to project success.

There will be two PhD students working alongside the successful candidate on this project at both Queen's University Belfast and University College Cork. The research fellow will work closely with partners in the work package and liaise with researchers in other work packages to ensure that research plans, outcomes, and outputs are co-developed and are cross-cutting. The successful candidate will also be involved in the supervision of PhD students who will be working alongside them on this work package and will be encouraged and supported to develop their skills and leadership in behaviour change.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves project management, and the co-ordination of multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines.
2. Adapt existing and generate new research protocols aimed to address the specified research objectives.
3. Oversee ethical approval submissions for research projects.
4. Collaborate with professionals, stakeholders, and other relevant groups in the recruitment of participants and the collection of the data.
5. Oversee the management of administrative, statistical, and any qualitative databases (e.g., SPSS, NVIVO).
6. Assist in the dissemination of findings at conferences and in the academic literature.
7. Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups.
8. Support PhD students aligned to the project and provide training in behaviour change.
9. Undertake development/training courses as necessary to keep knowledge and skills in behaviour change up to date and relevant for the project. Apply working knowledge of theory and practice and share with others as appropriate.
10. Carry out any other duties which are appropriate to the post, as may be reasonably requested by the Supervisor.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in Psychology, Behavioural Science, Public Health or related subject.
2. At least 3 years recent relevant research experience to include:
 - Behaviour change, quantitative and qualitative methods, and systematic/literature review methods.
3. A peer-reviewed publication record commensurate with career stage.
4. Demonstrable experience of working within relevant regulations and procedures including British Psychological Society and health service ethical requirements.

5. Evidence of understanding of issues with data confidentiality/security/data sharing.
6. Demonstrable experience of managing research data such as data entry, data cleaning, and producing datasets.
7. Good communication and interpersonal skills with a proven ability to present findings to a high standard through a variety of mediums.
8. Ability to prioritise own work within a general plan to meet deadlines.
9. Ability to keep accurate records and provide reports on project progress.
10. Ability to train junior staff and allocate work.
11. Ability to work in a team and independently.
12. Due to the nature of the projects, flexibility of working hours will be required.
13. Willingness to travel in line with the requirements of the post.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience in using behaviour change theories to design and/or interpret health research projects.
2. Experience of intervention mapping.
3. Experience of using the Behaviour Change Wheel in research.
4. Knowledge of the evidence base around vaccine hesitancy.
5. Experience of training others (students, professionals, researchers etc) in behaviour change.
6. Experience of delivering presentations to a variety of audiences including academic and non-academic audiences.
7. Ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary team.