

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant
School/Department:	Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research
Reference:	22/110214
Closing Date:	Monday 12 December 2022
Salary:	£29,619 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 10 January 2023
Duration:	Fixed term for 12 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To coordinate an international genetic epidemiology study on male breast cancer (MERGE) in partnership with the US National Cancer Institute. To contribute to the management and analysis of genetic epidemiology data, including genome-wide association studies (GWAS).

MAJOR DUTIES:

- 1. Assist with study design, data quality control, analysis and reporting of genetics data for use in international collaborative studies on the genetic epidemiology of breast cancer.
- 2. Liaise with international collaborators to complete data transfer agreements, arrange shipping of samples for genotyping, and communicate project progress.
- 3. Manage data access for MERGE under instruction from a data access coordinating committee.
- 4. Present regular progress reports to the team and supervisors, at QUB and NCI, as well as external audiences.
- 5. Contribute to the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- 1. Hold at least a 2.1 Honours degree in a relevant medical or life sciences subject, Statistics, Computer Science, or a closely related area.
- 2. Experience of genetics and/or epidemiology.
- 3. Experience with data management and project coordination.
- 4. Proficient with at least one statistics software package for epidemiology data analysis (e.g., SAS, Stata, R).
- 5. Must demonstrate good team working skills.
- 6. Organised and attentive to detail and ability to meet deadlines.
- 7. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- 8. Competent in formulating and delivering oral and written presentations.
- 9. Be capable of using own initiative.
- 10. Ability to work in a team and as an individual.
- 11. Ability to plan own work schedule responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities based on changing timelines.
- 12. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.
- 13. Willing and able to travel to national and international meetings.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. MSc or PhD in in epidemiology or genetics.
- 2. Familiarity with the governance, technical, and ethical issues related to managing and accessing genetic datasets.
- 3. Proficient in using R for data management and/or analysis.
- 4. Experience working with High Performance Computing (HPC) environments, and/or cloud computing platforms, such as AWS.
- 5. Knowledge of breast cancer genetic epidemiology.
- 6. Evidence of peer review publication, commensurate with the level of experience.