

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	School of Nursing and Midwifery
Reference:	22/110532
Closing Date:	Monday 9 January 2023
Salary:	£35,333 - £42,155 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 19 January 2023
Duration:	Fixed term 2 years

JOB PURPOSE:

To join the research team led by Professor Donna Fitzsimons to work on a Burdett Trust for Nursing funded project entitled ASMOSUS: Co-creation of a digital resource to build students' skills in ASsessing cardiovascular risk, MOTivating change and SUStaining a healthier lifestyle in themselves and others. Nurses are optimally situated to identify cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk and support people with adopting healthier lifestyles to prevent and treat CVD. However, the health of student and registered nurses in the United Kingdom (UK) is sub-optimal, with a high prevalence of CVD risk factors (i.e., smoking, physical inactivity, and alcohol consumption) evidenced in these populations. To effectively encourage patients to make cardioprotective lifestyle changes, nurses need to lead by example. However, student nurses may lack the skills and confidence required to do this. ASMOSUS aims to address these issues by developing a digital resource that builds students' interest and a fundamental skill set in preventive cardiology, which may promote Cardiovascular Nursing Champions in all fields of practice. If the intervention is successful, we would seek to gain further funding to roll out the resource across the UK.

We are seeking a highly motivated and ambitious individual who will be responsible for daily project management and delivery of ASMOSUS. The successful candidate will be a fundamental pillar to the project. They will take the lead on effectively managing the complexity of implementing mixed-methods research; overseeing the co-creation of a digital educational resource with nursing students and staff; maintaining communication between centres (Queen's University Belfast and Edinburgh Napier University); running recruitment and data collection; strengthening established collaborations; and assisting with data analysis and dissemination. Thus, the post is suited to applicants with experience of mixed-methods and co-design / creation research, along with meticulous work ethic and team-player approach characteristics. Applicants must demonstrate such skills within their CV and interview.

The post is available for up to 2 years, through which the successful candidate will be offered the support to access diverse training and career development opportunities.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Daily project management and delivery of ASMOSUS.
2. Implementing mixed-methods research.
3. Participant recruitment and data collection (quantitative and qualitative).
4. Overseeing the co-creation of a digital resource.
5. Conducting quantitative and qualitative analyses.
6. Maintaining and strengthening relationships with collaborators.
7. Prepare, in consultation with research team, material for publication in journals and presentations at national and international conferences.
8. Organisation of guest lectures, workshops, and events over the course of project to refresh student knowledge and maintain interest in CVD prevention.
9. Establish and maintain Steering Group and Expert Student Panel to guide project delivery.
10. Present regular progress reports to Professor Donna Fitzsimons and members of the research team.
11. Assist the research team with preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.

12. Apply working knowledge of theory and proactively share this knowledge with others as appropriate.
13. Read academic papers, journals, and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
14. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that project milestones are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, and risk assessment of research activities.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in a relevant subject (i.e., cardiovascular disease, chronic disease, lifestyle management, or public health).
2. At least 3 years relevant research experience to include:
 - Relevant experience in mixed-method approaches.
 - Experience undertaking co-design research methods.
3. Skills in managing and motivating staff.
4. Ability to devise, advise on, and manage research programmes effectively on time and target.
5. Ability to manage resources effectively.
6. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
7. Self-motivated and able to work autonomously.
8. Ability to supervise work of others in research team.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Nursing or Midwifery registration with NMC or qualifications that enable one to do so.
2. Experience with questionnaire and focus group data collection / analysis; and co-creation of digital resources.
3. Experience with conducting research in student populations.
4. Research interests that are sustainable within the School.
5. Publications in peer reviewed/refereed journals or invited presentations that are REF returnable.
6. Experience with securing research grants / contracts.
7. Experience with managing a multi-centre research project to successful completion.
8. Ability to maintain effective communication and comply with deadlines / budget limits.