

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	School of Nursing and Midwifery
Reference:	23/110643
Closing Date:	Monday 6 March 2023
Salary:	£35,333 - £39,745 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 16 March 2023
Duration:	Fixed term from 1 June 2023 until 30 November 2024

JOB PURPOSE:

This National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Service and Delivery Services (HS&DR) project ultimately aims to optimise the implementation and routinisation of integrated palliative care and oncology services across all healthcare settings. The study design is a realist review of the evidence. The project more specifically aims to a) develop a programme theory of why, for whom and in what contexts desired outcomes occur; b) use the programme theory to co-produce, with stakeholders (e.g. patient/carers, local, national, international content experts and multidisciplinary practitioners), recommendations to inform implementation of best practice and guide future research.

The role requires a research fellow to work with Professor Joanne Reid and Dr Tracey McConnell, and colleagues at Queen's University Belfast supported by collaborators at the University of Oxford. The role requires the successful candidate to undertake a realist synthesis review with support from other members of the team; searching and extracting data; writing up the synthesis and producing the research outputs including the final report and wider dissemination (e.g. presentations, and journal articles).

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Take a significant role in working with the information specialist to design the literature searching and searching and extracting data; writing up the synthesis and producing the research outputs including the final report.
2. Take a significant role in co-ordinating, implementing, evaluating and disseminating the research project.
3. Understand and follow RAMESES guidelines for reporting.
4. Undertake further training and development on realist synthesis methods as required.
5. Take responsibility for overall project management and close liaison with all members of the wider team at Queen's University Belfast and University of Oxford.
6. Work closely with the wider project team to ensure research rigour and consistency in approaches to data extraction, analysis and synthesis.
7. Be responsible for overseeing the literature searching and data extraction.
8. Contribute to overall data analysis, leading on the realist synthesis.
9. Work with research team colleagues on report-writing/disseminating findings (including oral/conference presentations) and producing resources to disseminate the work widely.
10. Plan and manage their own research activity in collaboration with others.
11. To carry out administrative tasks associated with the project (e.g. organisation of project meetings and producing/circulating associated documentation).
12. To design and implement procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting against project milestones.
13. Be committed to her/his own personal career development.
14. Carry out any other reasonable duty commensurate with the grade and purpose of the post.
15. Contribute to wider school activity by actively participating in Chronic Illness and Palliative Care Research Group meetings relevant to the work undertaken.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Undergraduate honours or postgraduate degree in a relevant social science or healthcare discipline.

2. Have, or be about to obtain a PhD in a relevant social science or healthcare discipline such as nursing.
3. At least 3 years relevant research experience.
4. Experience or knowledge of realist synthesis/methodology.
5. Experience of PPIE in research projects.
6. Proven ability to manage a research project.
7. Evidence of good organisational and administrative skills.
8. Ability to engage in deep critical thinking to develop theoretical insights, and to locate relevant mid-range theories.
9. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
10. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
11. Ability to communicate with a range of disciplines/professions.
12. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
13. Ability to assess and organise resources.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of working in a research team (including remotely).
2. Realist synthesis / methodology publications.
3. Experience of writing research reports and papers.
4. Excellent record of publication in health service related journals.
5. Demonstrable experience of presenting research at conferences to a wide variety of audiences.
6. Knowledge of relevant palliative care and/or oncology literature and theories, and proven interest in the topic.