

Job Description & Person Specification

Academic and Research roles

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
School/Department	School of Health and Life Sciences
Division (if applicable)	Division of Biological Sciences and Health
Programme (if applicable)	
Location	Lanarkshire Campus
Reporting to	Professor
UWS grade	Ac2
FTE	1.0

Job summary

<p>This position will support the aims of the transdisciplinary NIHR-funded project, focused the development, implementation and evaluation of the efficiency and impact of a predictive warning system intervention for extreme weather events (EWEs) on the KwaZulu-Natal province, Durban, South Africa.</p> <p>The successful candidate will be responsible for systematic review of the literature investigating emerging trends relating to human health in EWEs and infectious disease outbreaks. Examination of water quality data will identify patterns of emerging pathogens and contaminants impacting on human health due to EWEs. These data will inform risk assessment for chronic diseases, the development of a pathogen and contaminant management tool, and assisting healthcare providers in environmental disaster preparedness. The successful candidate will have knowledge and interest in the field of health economics with experience in mixed methods, and economic evaluation. They will also have a key role in supporting the interdisciplinary team of healthcare scientists, technology experts, public health professionals and health economists.</p>

People & finance responsibilities

People	Not Applicable
Finance	Not Applicable

Key activities

<p>The post-holder will be required to work closely with the multi-disciplinary team. The main responsibilities of the role may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct systematic literature reviews • Lead on ethics applications

- Ongoing communication and relationship building with environmental health practitioners, public health experts, government officials and industry and the public
- Organise and conduct semi-structured qualitative interviews with research participants in order to play a significant part in achieving the goals of the project
- Organise transcribing of the audio recordings and safe data storage
- Provide updates and report any problems to the research team
- Prepare information/papers for the team and for project team meetings as required
- Present research project progress reports and outcomes to internal and external stakeholders
- Maintain confidentiality of study participants
- Ensure all confidential information is handled correctly and kept secure
- Keep accurate time and travel records
- Contribute to ongoing impact and knowledge dissemination (blogs, briefings, and other forms of engagement).
- Contribute to academic publications

Job scope

Planning and organising	<p>Work will be assigned, initially on a weekly basis, moving to a fortnightly basis as the project progresses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and organise own work schedules within these time frames, working on own initiative and prioritising workload to ensure completion of research tasks within project deadlines. • Be responsible for working to deadlines and to alerting principal researcher/s to progress against deadlines • Participate in interdisciplinary project team meetings and contribute to project planning and implementation • Seek guidance on actions to cope with unforeseen disruption or delay to project • Liaise with the key stakeholders • Work flexible hours (e.g. some weekend and/or evening work may be required) • Ability to travel internationally when required
Decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deal with problems which may affect the delivery or the achievement of research objectives and deadlines • Contribute to decisions affecting the work of the team • Authority to take decisions will be within the constraints of University procedures and parameters set by the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator • Analyse and interpret the results of research and contribute to the generation of outputs
Working relationships – Liaison and Networking	<p>The post will be based in the School of Health and Life Sciences, Lanarkshire Campus and will work very closely with colleagues in the School Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences. The post holder will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with colleagues and support staff and across UWS on relevant research matters • Work closely with members of the research team at UWS, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, University of Portsmouth

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance, support and assistance to the relevant staff supporting the project • Develop knowledge and understanding, and form relationships with internal/external stakeholders and contacts for future collaboration where appropriate. • Attend and contribute to research team meetings
Working relationships – Communication	
Working relationships – Teamwork	
Working relationships – Pastoral Care	

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications

			Evidence A = Application I = Interview
Essential	QE1 QE2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honours Degree in Health Science or related field completed a PhD, or awaiting viva for PhD in the field of Health Science or Health Economics 	
Desirable	QD1 QD2		

Experience

			Evidence A = Application I = Interview
Essential	EE1 EE2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous relevant research experience Experience in performing systematic reviews Experience of analysing qualitative and quantitative data 	
Desirable	ED1 ED2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience in working with multi-discipline teams Experience in interdisciplinary research Knowledge of 'One Health' approach 	

Skills

			Evidence A = Application I = Interview
Essential	SE1 SE2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good written and oral communication skills including the ability to deal tactfully and courteously with a range of people and situations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills in mixed methods that can be used in Health Economics Good organisational skills Intermediate IT skills Ability to meet deadlines 	
Desirable	SD1 SD2		

Knowledge

			Evidence A = Application I = Interview
Essential	KE1 KE2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge and understanding relevant to the research problem 	
Desirable	KD1 KD2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise in the study of the environmental impact on human health Knowledge of the challenges in healthcare practice related to management and accessibility 	

Behaviours

			Evidence A = Application I = Interview
Essential	BE1 BE2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work on an individual basis and part of a team • Ability to travel internationally when required • Ability to adapt according to different situations • Good interpersonal skills 	
Desirable	BD1 BD2		

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