

# **Candidate Information**

Position: School/Department: Reference: Closing Date: Salary: Duration: Research Fellow in Cancer Epidemiology Centre for Public Health 20/108287 Monday 7 September 2020 £33,797 - £38,017 per annum This post is available until 31 August 2024.

## JOB PURPOSE:

This post is funded by a UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) Future Leaders Fellowship Award, involves working with a multi-disciplinary, multi-centre team to generate important evidence regarding the surveillance, treatment and follow-up of women diagnosed with endometrial hyperplasia and endometrial cancer.

The incidence of endometrial cancer is rapidly increasing, especially in premenopausal women, but there is no routine screening for this cancer. Endometrial hyperplasia is a recognised precursor of endometrial cancer, offers an opportunity for prevention. This project will utilise data from the Northern Ireland (NI) Endometrial Hyperplasia Register, held within the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (NICR) to determine temporal trends in endometrial hyperplasia incidence and progression to endometrial cancer. Additional novel data linkages to drug dispensing and maternity records will be conducted to evaluate population patterns of low-cost progestogen therapies in endometrial hyperplasia patients and their long-term impact on clinical outcomes such as hysterectomy, live births and progression to cancer.

This project will also utilise data from population-based endometrial cancer cohorts in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands (accessed via virtual data safe-havens) to investigate treatment trends and pooled analyses will be conducted to evaluate survival outcomes according to surgical and non-surgical hormonal treatments.

In the later stages of the project, there may be opportunities to travel to collaborators in Belgium and the Netherlands.

The post holder will acquire skills in project management and analysis of large datasets, and will also have primary responsibility for the writing of the resulting publications. Flexible working options may be considered.

#### **MAJOR DUTIES:**

- Project management and oversight of record linkages between the Northern Ireland (NI) Endometrial Hyperplasia Register, located within the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (NICR), and external clinical datasets from the NI Business Services Organisation.
- 2. To conduct statistical analysis of the NI Endometrial Hyperplasia Register linked datasets.
- To carry out statistical analysis of linked UK healthcare datasets including CPRD, SAIL Databank and NHS Scotland, as well as data from the Netherland's PHARMO Institute for Drug Outcomes Research and the Netherlands Comprehensive Cancer Organisation.
- 4. To liaise closely with study collaborators, who are based across the Centre for Public Health, The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, and internationally at the Belgian Cancer Registry and the PHARMO Institute for Drug Outcomes Research.
- 5. To prepare regular summary reports for the project team and communication to stakeholders.
- 6. To prepare, in consultation with the project team, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at national and international conferences.
- 7. To contribute to the delivery of stakeholder engagement activities, as well as patient and public involvement in research.
- 8. To assist in the submission of associated grant applications.

- 9. To carry out occasional undergraduate/postgraduate supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
- 10. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
- 11. Be willing to travel to meet the needs of the post, when required.

#### Planning and Organising:

- 1. To plan for specific deliverables of the research project's scientific outputs.
- 2. To plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
- 3. To plan to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
- 4. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group and project team regarding progress.

## **Resource Management Responsibilities:**

- 1. To ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
- 2. To provide support and guidance as required to staff and students assisting with the research.

## Internal and External Relationships:

- 1. To liaise on a regular basis with colleagues, students and key stakeholders.
- 2. To maintain existing and establish new internal and external contacts and participate in networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
- 3. To contribute to the School's outreach programme.

## **ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

- 1. Have or be about to obtain a relevant PhD in epidemiology, public health, statistics or related subject.
- 2. At least 3 years' recent research experience and skills relevant to this project.
- 3. Experience of project management, delivering research outcomes, and proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a research team.
- 4. Evidence of experience of statistical software using, for example, Stata.
- 5. Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
- 6. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
- 7. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in research methods and techniques pertinent to this project.
- 8. Excellent IT skills e.g. Microsoft Office suite.
- 9. Excellent organisational skills.
- 10. Excellent inter-personal skills.
- 11. Excellent oral and written communication skills
- 12. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks and contribute to broader management tasks.
- 13. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
- 14. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
- 15. Ability to give formal presentations.
- 16. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
- 17. Ability to act decisively and confidently.
- Access to transport or ability to meet the mobility requirements of the post and a willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.
- 19. Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary

#### DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree in a relevant discipline, a Master's degree, and / or relevant professional qualification.
- 2. Experience in cancer epidemiology analysis.
- 3. Experience conducting pharmacoepidemiology analysis.
- 4. Good publication track record commensurate with the stage of career.
- 5. Proven ability to participate in or initiate collaborative research.
- 6. Evidence of having co-ordinated a research project to successful completion.
- 7. Strong commitment to a career in research or Public Health.