

1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Fellow in Health Services Research

School/department: Brighton and Sussex Medical School, Primary Care and Public Health

Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE. Requests for flexible working options and job shares will be considered (subject to business need).

Contract: fixed term until 31st December 2021

Reference: 2301

Salary: starting at £33,797 and rising to £40,322 per annum

Placed on: 23 September 2019

Closing date: 23 October 2019. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected start date: TBC

We are seeking an experienced researcher in community engagement and risk analysis to work on co-production of a web-based platform for visualising cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk and motivating users to adopt healthy lifestyle behaviours.

We aim to design an online web platform for community health workers to use in a health check style coaching intervention. The web platform will visualise personal risk of CVD, and show how risk would change if certain medical or lifestyle changes were made. The web-platform will be produced in conjunction with community members and an app development company.

The post-holder's role is firstly to facilitate co-production by consulting with members of the target communities in focus groups. Secondly, their role is to search out high quality epidemiological evidence of CVD risk and calculate changes to risk achieved by healthy lifestyle changes. Additional data analysis may be needed from population based datasets in order to calculate risk changes.

This post is an ideal opportunity for a curious applied health services researcher interested in talking to vulnerable people, lifestyle engagement and e-Health. The candidate should be excellent at project management and communication with people from a wide range of backgrounds. They should also be an innovative and pragmatic epidemiologist with strong data analysis skills.

Prior knowledge of, and engagement with, local communities is essential. Job share applications are welcome.

For full details and how to apply see:

www.sussex.ac.uk/jobs

www.brighton.ac.uk/jobs

www.bsms.ac.uk

The Universities of Brighton and Sussex are committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in science, mathematics, medicine and engineering at the universities.

2. Brighton and Sussex Medical School and partners

Brighton and Sussex Medical School is an equal partnership between the Universities of Sussex and Brighton together with NHS organisations throughout the South East region. Find out more at: bsms.ac.uk/about

The Department

The Department is a positive and collegial workplace that hosts general practice teaching and a wide range of community focussed research. It hosts a range of practitioners and researchers with interests focussed on primary care and community health. Our research interests are in global health, the evaluation of medical education, mental and sexual health, behavioural medicine, health informatics and research methodologies including medical statistics.

The University of Sussex is a leading research-intensive university near Brighton, currently ranked top 20 in all major league tables. Find out more: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/about/>

The University of Brighton is a complex and diverse institution with a long and distinguished history of applied research. Find out more: brighton.ac.uk/about-us/

Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals Trust is the regional teaching hospital working across two sites: the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath. Find out more: bsuh.nhs.uk/about-us/

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust specialises in working with people who are experiencing mental health difficulties and those with learning disabilities, across Sussex, Kent and Hampshire. Find out more: sussexpartnership.nhs.uk/about-us

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: **Health Services Research**

Department	Primary Care and Public Health
Section / Unit / School Location	Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Grade	7
Responsible to	Elizabeth Ford
Responsible for	N/A

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.
2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
- 1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
- 1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
- 1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.
- 1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
- 1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
- 1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support

- 2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.
- 2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.
- 2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

3. Contribution to School & University

- 3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- 3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

- 4.1 Run project with increasing independence in collaboration with partners and EU Coordinators.
- 4.2 Engage local communities in the project and recruit members of target communities for iterative co-design consultations and focus groups.
- 4.3 Facilitate focus groups and data collection, communicate findings to the rest of the project team
- 4.4 Lead writing high-impact papers annually.
- 4.5 Co-produce deliverables to agreed deadlines and objectives.
- 4.6 Represent team at overall project meetings, either alone or with the team leader.
- 4.7 Ensure effective communication with the rest of the development team and team leader.
- 4.8 Set up the necessary data management following consultations and analyse the qualitative data.
- 4.9 Search the epidemiological literature for high quality statistical evidence on changes in CVD risk consequent to health lifestyle of medical changes and interventions.
- 4.10 Identify sources of population data on which such changes in risk could be calculated and acquire these for analyses.
- 4.11 Conduct statistical analyses and draw together/synthesise evidence to create mathematical models or rules on how risks for CVD events change, given changes to lifestyle or medication in low SES populations.
- 4.12 Communicate and work closely with app/software design company so that models or rules for change in risk can be deployed in the SPICES app.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
- Other forms of externally recognised professional practice of creative output of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
- Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
- Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

4. Person Specification

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).
2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.
3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
5. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
6. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
7. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
8. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Degree level or postgraduate qualifications in health, nutrition, or social sciences or personnel management.
2. Evidence of excellent communication skills, especially with local community groups.
3. Evidence of experience in co-production, stakeholder engagement or public/patient involvement in research
4. Evidence of wide prior knowledge of and engagement with local area and local communities

5. Experienced in focus group methodology and capable of organising and facilitating focus groups and other stakeholder consultations.
6. Excellent data analysis skills including qualitative analysis, as well as multivariate analyses of population data.
7. Experience of analysing data from large population scale databases.
8. Experience reviewing and synthesising the epidemiological literature for statistics evidence (e.g. completed systematic review with meta-analysis).
9. Willingness to travel within East Sussex for liaising with community organisations

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.

DESIRABLE ROLE SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Experience in project working with a software or app design company.
2. Experience of working in, or managing, projects with digital deliverables.
3. Experience working on complex design projects as part of a large team.
4. Experience in managing a project with multiple stakeholders and partners.
5. Experience in communicating complex statistical findings to a wide audience.

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