



Job Title: Research Associate

Grade: 7

Salary: £39,355 to £45,413 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

Department: Population Health Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full-time or job share, fixed term contract to 31 March 2027

Reference: 11501

Role Purpose

To have specific responsibilities with an established research programme. To work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research as part of a wider programme.

The post-holder will conduct qualitative research for the Wellcome Trust-funded project Understanding and Enhancing Cancer Health Equity for Black and Mixed Black Ethnic Minority Women. This role involves working collaboratively within a multidisciplinary research team, contributing to a narrative review, qualitative data collection and analysis, and public involvement activities.

Work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high-quality research as part of a wider programme.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- Lead and support academic outputs, including paper writing, qualitative data analysis, and the preparation of research reports and publications within the field of health equity.
- Conduct in-depth interviews and focus groups, ensuring inclusive and culturally sensitive approaches, and contribute to the drafting of academic publications, policy briefs, and dissemination materials.
- Support the delivery of the project’s dissemination activities, including workshops and stakeholder events, ensuring that outputs reflect the voices of the women involved in the research.
- Collaborate with patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE) groups, community charities, and healthcare partners to ensure inclusive participation throughout the research process.
- Collect and analyse equality monitoring data to inform project progress, support reporting requirements, and ensure alignment with health equity objectives.
- Lead, attend, and support project meetings with internal and external partners
- To lead in writing up research findings for dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community, and develop ideas and contributions for future grants.

Professional Development

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- Network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area
- To contribute to industry collaborations
- To consult effectively on own specialism directly with people external to the University





- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact

Leadership and Citizenship

- Guidance to other team members both research staff and students
- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.
- Providing mentoring and coaching to Early Career Researchers and research students

Internal and External Relationships

You will work under the supervision of the Principal Investigator, based within the Leicester NIHR Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), and collaborate closely with the BRC Cancer Theme. This will include regular engagement with BRC researchers, the Inclusion Platform team, theme leaders, and colleagues across the University of Leicester and partner institutions across the UK.

The role will also involve working with community charities, advocacy groups, and external partners to ensure the research remains grounded in the experiences and priorities of the women it seeks to benefit. You will engage with research participants and PPIE members, supporting inclusive research practices across all project activities.

You will contribute to the dissemination of findings, ensuring that the voices and experiences of the women involved are reflected in all outputs. This will include collaborative initiatives designed to share insights in accessible and impactful ways, further amplifying the reach and influence of the research. Collaboration with national networks, health organizations, and advocacy groups will support the translation of findings into practice. You will also attend regular project meetings, conferences, and networking activities to promote the research and its focus on inclusive health equity. Opportunities for professional development will be available through workshops, training, and conferences.

Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules;
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims;

Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project;

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD in a relevant discipline (health and social sciences research) or a masters degree and significant relevant research experience*
- First degree in a relevant discipline (2:1 or higher)*
- Strong research experience and skills in supporting data collection and data analysis*
- Good project management experience
- Experience of collaboration*
- Evidence of leading and contributing to academic publications*
- Experience in delivering dissemination activities, such as podcasts, workshops, or policy-focused events aimed at translating research into practice.





Desirable

- Background in funded programmes of work, particularly within health research, inclusion, and underserved groups.
- Proven ability to support knowledge exchange or public engagement activities, such as workshops, community forums, or creative dissemination approaches*.
- Knowledge of policy engagement, including contributions to briefings, consultations, or stakeholder reports.
- Understanding of health inequalities, particularly those affecting Black and Mixed Black ethnic minority women*
- Capacity to work effectively with diverse stakeholders, including community organizations, healthcare providers, and policymakers*.
- Demonstrable success in producing articles for publication*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Strong project management and coordination skills
- Ability to work with and analyse qualitative and/or quantitative data
- Proficiency in qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis, including the use of tools including use of tools such as NVivo, SPSS, STATA, or R
- Excellent IT skills, including proficiency with Microsoft Office and data analysis software
- Excellent organisational skills, with the ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines
- Ability to interpret and present analytical data effectively
- Strong written* and oral communication skills, with the ability to tailor communication for different audiences.
- Effective workload management to meet competing deadlines
- Collaborative approach, with the ability to work effectively as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Self-motivated and proactive, with a strong commitment to delivering high-quality work
- Willingness to undertake necessary travel

Desirable

- Willingness to develop new and existing skills.

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.





Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

