UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Job Summary

Job Title: Research Assistant
Grade: 6
Salary: £33,662 to £38,448 per annum, pro rata
Department: Leicester Medical School, Stoneygate Centre for Empathic Healthcare
Hours/Contract: Part-time, (8 hours per week, 0.2 fte) fixed term contract until 31 May 2027
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Job Reference: 14179

Role Purpose

At the Stoneygate Centre for Empathic Healthcare, we are looking to evaluate the feasibility of implementing our newly developed therapeutic empathy scale – the Rapid Assessment of Therapeutic Empathy (RATE) scale – in an NHS setting. To do this, we need to administer RATE to patients in the National Health Service (NHS), and collect data about patients' experiences of completing it, and staff's experiences of implementing it. This will be achieved through a mixed-methods study design, combining quantitative data collected through online and paper surveys with qualitative data gathered through interviews.

The successful candidate will support the application for ethical approval from a NHS ethics committee and Health Research Authority (HRA), implementation of RATE, and both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. They will be supported by Dr Amber Bennett-Weston, and Professor Jeremy Howick, from the Stoneygate Centre.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To support the development of an application for NHS and HRA ethical approval.
- To support the research team in the acquisition, evaluation and interpretation of data and other specialised information.
- To carry out analyses, tests and critical evaluations using agreed techniques, novel approaches and/or models.
- To prepare and undertake high-quality data analysis and tests using appropriate techniques and novel approaches.
- To contribute to the development or choice of techniques, critiques, approaches, models and research methods.
- To summarise findings, record, and disseminate where appropriate to members of the research group.
- To contribute to research outputs such as co-authored journal articles, reports, and conference presentations.

Professional Development:

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

Impact and Knowledge Exchange*:*

- Participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of research findings.

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Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the overall success of the research programme

Internal and External Relationships

Communicate and liaise with colleagues and collaborators involved in the above research programme and other projects the team is undertaking, on a regular basis to review and plan research activities.

Occasionally communicate and liaise with research collaborators, both nationally and internationally, under the instruction of your line manager.

Planning and Organising

With guidance from the Principal Investigator, or equivalent, plan own work and prioritise research and project activities on a regular basis.

- The post-holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the research programme with the support of their line manager.
- Attend suitable training courses or equivalent and be proactive in terms of continued professional development.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Evidence of Honours degree and/or relevant experience *
- Practical experience and knowledge of applying research skills and techniques to deliver outputs on time and to the required quality *
- Practical experience and knowledge of preparing an application for ethical approval *

Desirable

- Currently studying for a PhD
- Master's qualification
- Experience of applying for NHS ethical and/or HRA approvals for research

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to demonstrate research potential and enthusiasm for the subject area and contribute to delivering high-quality research *
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills *
- Evidence of continued personal development of subject expertise *
- Team player to support the broader research group

Athena Swan Silver Award · Race Equality Charter Bronze Award · disability confident LEADER · LGBT+ 2020 - 2021 AWARDEE ORGANISATION · Stonewall DIVERSITY CHAMPIONS

- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal *
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules *
- Commitment to continuous professional development (CPD)
- Willingness to participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of results and findings

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.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

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

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

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.