UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Job Summary

Job Title: Biostatistician
Grade: 7
Salary: £34,804 - £40,322 per annum
Department: Cardiovascular Sciences
Hours/Contract: Full Time, Fixed Term contract for 2 years
Reference: 1369

Role Purpose

The post holder will work with collaborators based in the Departments of Cardiovascular Sciences, Health Sciences, Health Data Research UK, and the Leicester Clinical Trials Unit to develop a novel platform for the modelling of in silico trials of interventions in cardiovascular disease. As well as the reporting of a master protocol, these virtual trials will translate into funding applications for a portfolio of pragmatic, lean, clinical trials, as part of the BHF sponsored Cardiovascular Surgery Strategy. It is envisaged that the postholder's role would develop with the programme to become established as an expert in the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting, of clinical trials using routinely collected health data.

Where required, the post holder will undergo training in biostatistics, health data science, and clinical trial design. They will also establish new links with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Cardiovascular Data Science Centre and BHF Clinical Research Collaborative.

You will be joining the Leicester UKCRC accredited Clinical Trials Unit, and the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences. The post provides an excellent opportunity for an ambitious statistician to develop a strong career in clinical trials and cardiovascular disease.

Main Duties and Responsibilities	% Time
To work as part of a team of biostatisticians to develop novel methodology that will design virtual trials of cardiovascular interventions using routinely collected health data. The successful applicant will take a leading role in methodological development, application of this methodology to the design virtual trials and assess the likely real world impact of these trials across populations. Specific research activities are:	25
• To extract data for studies from HES/ ONS based on pre-specified protocols and store the data securely	15
• To develop methodology that will mitigate the known limitations of routinely collected health data, anticipate how these will influence virtual trial design, and apply these methods to known research priorities.	15
• To submit applications for necessary approvals from the HRA and other bodies	5
• To collaborate with external researchers to deliver the programme, including the Cochrane Collaboration, and the Research Design Service	10
• To take the lead on writing research papers	10
• To formulate and document quality assessment methods for routinely collected health data.	5
• To supervise PhD students	15

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Job Summary

Internal and External Relationships

Regular communication with research team, line manager and Principal Investigator.

Weekly research team meetings.

Quarterly steering group meetings.

Communication with external collaborators.

Communication with other members of the department for critical discussion of research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research.

Planning and Organising

The postholder will be expected to manage their time to plan their research activity.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Relevant MSc (medical statistics/epidemiology) or equivalent extensive research experience*
- Evidence of research productivity (including high-quality research publications, presentations)*
- Experience of working with large data sets*
- An understanding of approaches to analysing observational data*
- Good knowledge of statistical programming and data management (Stata/SAS/R/SQL)*

Desirable

- A PhD in relevant area
- Experience/knowledge of contemporary research methods for real world evidence*
- Experience/knowledge of design and analysis of clinical trials*
- Track record of contributing to peer reviewed publications

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- High level of proficiency in English, sufficient to undertake research, teaching and administrative activities utilising English Language materials and to communicate effectively with staff and students*
- Good analytical skills
- Excellent time management skills in order to meet deadlines
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Effective planning and organisational skills
- Ability to work independently and also as part of a research team
- Ability to plan, implement and deliver programmes of work

Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview

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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.
VITAL
The University encourages all staff to live our VITAL values which are: **Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.**
Equality and Diversity
We believe that equality, 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 equality 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 equality, diversity and inclusion.