

JOB DESCRIPTION

POST	Research Assistant in Evidence Synthesis (disease control)
CONTRACT	Fixed term
REFERENCE NO	416-19
REPORTS TO	READ-It Programme Director and Co-ordinating Editor of the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group
ROLE PURPOSE/SUMMARY	To complete a high quality, policy relevant, informative systematic review in malaria insecticide residual spraying, and be involved in other relevant disease control topics in low- and middle-income countries.
SCOPE/BACKGROUND	<p>The Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group was established in 1995. We are world leaders in evidence synthesis related to public health in the tropics. We have a wide portfolio of Cochrane reviews in malaria and neglected tropical diseases.</p> <p>This post is to contribute to an existing review team on evaluating Indoor Residual Spraying to Control Malaria for the Entomology and Vector Control group within the Global Malaria Programme at WHO. This protocol has been published and the review includes observational studies. This is an exciting opportunity for an author interested in public health in LMIC's and who has some systematic review experience.</p> <p>The post holder will work about 50% on this review in the first six months and will contribute to other reviews and associated methods projects. We aim for a mixed portfolio to provide a broad exposure to evidence-informed science, including contributing to our postgraduate training programme.</p>

ROLE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	KEY ACTIONS These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved
1	Complete insecticide residual spraying Cochrane review for malaria	<p>Work with the team in applying inclusion criteria, i-robins assessment, writing the review and completing the summary of findings</p> <p>Ensure good communication within the project team via Email, reports and teleconferences</p> <p>Respond to referee and editorial input</p>
2	Contribute to Cochrane reviews	<p>Join one or two other teams working on important systematic reviews in disease control in writing and preparing the review</p> <p>Provide advice on priority review topics</p> <p>Contribute to the dissemination of programme findings</p>
3	Support author teams with technical editorial reviews	<p>Assist the editorial team with review management tasks</p> <p>Contribute to review refereeing</p> <p>Assist the author teams to ensure timely review production</p> <p>Provide advice on priority review topics</p> <p>Provide input to such reviews as an author, editor or methodological specialist</p> <p>Ensure good communication within the project team via Email, reports and teleconferences</p>

4	Assist the teams postgraduate training portfolio	Assist with seminars for Diploma and Master students
		Assist with the planning of teaching programmes
		Assist with Consortium short courses overseas
		Assist with the training of postgraduates in evidence synthesis
5	Assist with other Consortium related activities	Assist with submissions for grant funding
		Assist with partner capacity development
		Participate in and become involved with other research projects
		Travel overseas for Consortium or CIDG related activities

FURTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	KEY ACTIONS These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved
1	General	Promote equality of opportunity and inclusive practice in all aspects of work undertaken
		Act in a manner that safeguards children and/or vulnerable adults as applicable to the role
		Any other duties commensurate with the grade and nature of the role

PERSON SPECIFICATION

POST	Research Assistant in Evidence Synthesis (disease control)	
COMPETENCY CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL/ DESIRABLE	WHERE MEASURED
Qualifications & Training		
Master degree that includes training in interpreting statistical and quantitative data	Essential	Application
Knowledge of Systematic reviews and RCT trials basics	Essential	Application/Interview/ Assessment
Knowledge and interest in developing countries and infectious disease problems	Essential	Application/Interview
Postgraduate qualification in epidemiology or related quantitative topic	Desirable	Application
PhD	Desirable	Application
Skills & Experience		
Experience in biomedical or social science research in low and middle-income countries	Essential	Application/Interview/
Experience of critical appraisal of medical literature at postgraduate level	Essential	Application/Interview/
Experience of completing a systematic review	Essential	Application/Interview/
Experience and evidence of critical insight into priority policy questions in international health relevant to infectious diseases	Essential	Application/Interview/
Experienced in editing and writing scientific articles	Desirable	Application/Interview/
Experience of completing a systematic review of effects	Desirable	Application/Interview/
Experience of being an author of a Cochrane review, and experienced in the software used	Desirable	Application/Interview/
Experience of using GRADE	Desirable	Application/Interview/
Proven track record in published research	Desirable	Application/Interview/
Knowledge & Behaviours		
Knowledge and behaviours that support equality, diversity and inclusive practice	Essential	Application/Interview/
Knowledge and behaviours that support safeguarding as applicable to the role	Essential	Application/Interview/
Demonstrable skills in quantitative analysis with the ability to analyse data for a dissertation, audit or research publication		
Excellent communication skills with the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing with a meticulous attention to detail	Essential	Application/Interview/
Ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary team as well as independently	Essential	Application/Interview/
Computer literate with working knowledge of MS Office applications	Essential	Application/Interview/
Excellent time management and organisational skills	Essential	Application/Interview/
Proactive and enthusiastic approach to work	Essential	Application/Interview/
Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to foster collaborative relationships	Essential	Application/Interview/
Sensitivity to a variety of cultures	Essential	Application/Interview/
Ability to show initiative, provide solutions to problems and have confidence in taking decisions	Essential	Application/Interview/
Willingness and commitment to capacity development	Essential	Application/Interview/
Circumstances		
Ability and willingness to travel overseas	Essential	stipulated
Main base for post is Liverpool, UK	Essential	stipulated
Full time. 80% FTE considered on request	Essential	Application/interview