

PhD Studentships

PhD Studentship: Understanding incident tuberculosis (TB) infection in adolescents in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Location: Africa Centre for Population Health, KZN, South Africa

Funding for: South African nationals, **and** other African nationals

Hours: full-time

Placed on: 30th Oct 2015

Application now closes on: 31st Dec 2015

The [Africa Centre for Population Health](#) is situated in the rural district of Umkhanyakude in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, which has one of the highest HIV prevalence globally. The Centre's core activity, since 2000, is demographic and health surveillance in an area with a population of around 100,000 people. In 2004, the Africa Centre partnered with the local Department of Health to deliver a comprehensive HIV Treatment and Care Programme, decentralised to the 17 primary health care clinics, mobile clinic services and a primary level hospital in the sub-district. Over 25,000 people have initiated antiretroviral therapy during this time, including over 2500 children. The research focus of the Africa Centre aims to increase understanding of the lives of people in this high HIV-prevalence rural area of South Africa to inform interventions to improve their health.

TB is a leading cause of death in the population served by the Africa Centre. The Africa Centre's new TB research programme aims to understand TB transmission in this population, in order to develop interventions to interrupt TB transmission. The successful applicant for this PhD studentship will have responsibilities for implementation, analysis and write-up of components of a study determining the incidence of TB infection among adolescents, and investigating risk factors for incident TB infection, exploring in particular the contribution of exposure to health facilities. Preference will be given to applicants with Masters' level training in epidemiology and/or experience in TB epidemiology. An interest in adolescent health and familiarity with qualitative methodologies would be helpful. The successful applicant will be supported to register in a PhD programme.

For information on how to apply, please refer to:

- **Frequently Asked Questions and How to Apply** (click [here](#))
- **Please return completed Reference Forms** (download [here](#)) **and Application Form** (download [here](#)) **to:** haya@lshtm.ac.uk

You are asked to read the application instructions carefully. Please note, applications that are submitted without following the correct procedure may not be considered.

Please address any informal enquiries to [Dr Deborah Farmer](#)