The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Senior Ethnographic Researcher
(1-year fixed term contract, renewable) (Re-advertised)
Department of Geriatric Medicine
SCHOOL OF CLINICAL MEDICINE

Ref.: T/CM20/2021

The Department of Geriatrics at UKZN and the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of Witwatersrand is seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to fill the position of ethnographic researcher for the Fractures in Sub-Saharan Africa: Epidemiology, economic impact and ethnography study (FRACTURES E3). The incumbent will be based in Gauteng at the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of Witwatersrand and will report to Professor M Lukhele.

The successful candidate will attend the University of Bristol's online course on "Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods" scheduled from 24th to 29th January 2022.

The key responsibilities for this post are:

- Organise research visits, interviews, observational fieldwork, including contact with potential participants such as patients who have had a hip fracture and their family members/ carers, healthcare professionals delivering hip fracture care.
- Carry out qualitative interviews and observational fieldwork on experiences of accessing and delivering care for hip fractures
- Translate and transcribe audio recordings according to study protocols
- Anonymise transcriptions and observational field notes, file appropriately and transfer to researchers at the University of Bristol in keeping with policies
- Analyse qualitative data using established approaches including thematic analysis
- Contribute to writing articles for peer reviewed journals in collaboration with colleagues
- Present findings to colleagues and other stakeholders and at conferences
- Organise and maintain storage of data in keeping with FRACTURES-E3 and institutional policies
- Ensure that study records and outputs are effectively produced and maintained
- Collaborate and supervise Research Assistant during fieldwork
- Attend weekly and regular meetings with the in-country and wider study team, using video conferencing technology (e.g. Zoom, Teams) or in person, where possible

Minimum requirements

- Undergraduate degree in relevant discipline such as a BSc or BA (examples include sociology, psychology, anthropology, health services research)
- At least 2 years' experience in qualitative health research with experience carrying out observational fieldwork using observational checklist, taking field notes and writing into full field notes for analysis
- Knowledge and experience of a range of qualitative approaches to data collection and analysis including qualitative interviews and focus groups
- Experience of organising research visits, fieldwork, interviews, including contact with potential participants and arranging own travel and diary to conduct data collection
- Experience in analysing qualitative data, including coding data and developing themes or categories as appropriate
- Experience in literature searches and reference management
- Fluent in English and Zulu
- Self-motivated, proactive, innovative, and able to use initiative where appropriate
- Willingness and ability to travel (using own transport) to conduct fieldwork which will necessitate overnight stays

Essential Requirements

- Experience working within a collaborative study team to contribute to interpretation of findings
- Evidence of good English-language writing skills, showing accuracy, clarity of expression and attention to detail
- Experience in producing written reports of research findings
- Experience in contributing to team meetings, including taking the lead where asked to do so and organising meetings
- Excellent communication skills with good listening and observational skills
- Able to operate online software on a tablet device
- Good time management skills
- Experience of contributing to articles published in peer-reviewed journals
- Experience in giving presentation of research and research findings at meetings using Powerpoint

This post reports to Principal Investigator and the Study Coordinator. Enquiries regarding this post may be directed to Mrs C Vedalankar on 0312604537. The job profile is available from Mrs C Vedalankar e-mail: vedalankarc@ukzn.ac.za.

The total remunerative salary is R250 000 per annum determined in accordance with prevailing remunerative principles. The closing date for receipt of applications is 08 December 2021. The University reserves the right not to make any appointment. Applicants are required to complete the relevant application form which is available on the Vacancies website at www.ukzn.ac.za. Completed forms may be sent to vedalankarc@ukzn.ac.za.

The Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the email subject line.