Department of Primary Care Health Sciences

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	**Statistical/Epidemiological Modeller**
Division	**Medical Sciences**
Department	**Primary Care Health Sciences**
Location	**Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6GG**
Grade and salary	**Grade 7: £29,541 - £36,298(with discretionary range up to £39,107).** **or Grade 6 (£26,264 - £31,331)**
Hours	**Full-time OR part-time**
Contract type	**Fixed term for 32 months**
Reporting to	**Dr Richard Stevens, University Research Lecturer in Medical Statistics**
Vacancy reference	**108708**

Introduction

The University

The University of Oxford is a complex and stimulating organisation, which enjoys an international reputation as a world-class centre of excellence in research and teaching. It employs over 10,000 staff and has a student population of over 22,000.

Most staff are directly appointed and managed by one of the University's 130 departments or other units within a highly devolved operational structure - this includes over 6,500 'academic-related' staff (postgraduate research, computing, senior library, and administrative staff) and over 2,700 'support' staff (including clerical, library, technical, and manual staff). There are also over 1,600 academic staff (professors, readers, lecturers), whose appointments are in the main overseen by a combination of broader divisional and local faculty board/departmental structures. Academics are generally all also employed by one of the 38 constituent colleges of the University as well as by the central University itself.

Our annual income in 2011/12 was £1,016.1m. Oxford is one of Europe's most innovative and entrepreneurial universities: income from external research contracts exceeds £409m p.a., and more than 80 spin-off companies have been created.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/staff/about_the_university.html

Medical Sciences Division

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching. We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford.

World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/

Department Of Primary Care Health Sciences

The Department of Primary Care Health Sciences was established in October 1998 (as the Department of Primary Health Care) with the appointment of a foundation chair in general practice and was awarded world-leading 4* status in the RAE 2008. It provides a strong multi-disciplinary training environment and a full programme of academic support and good IT facilities. It has strong links with other epidemiological and community based research groupings in the University and also with local general practices that participate in both teaching and research.

The Department's primary research focus is on the prevention, early diagnosis and management of common illness in general practice - particularly childhood infection, cancer, heart disease and stroke. It has recently developed a new stream of clinical research which seeks to improve the conceptual understanding and use of monitoring in a number of chronic diseases. The Department has an international reputation for developing innovative methods of research synthesis and research use to ensure that research findings change clinical practice. It is host to the Oxford Centre for Evidence Based Medicine. We are also home to the international Cochrane Tobacco Addiction Group which collates and summarises research evidence from across the world to underpin governmental health policies on smoking. The department includes the qualitative social science focussed Health Experiences Research Group (HERG), which has a close working relationship with the DIPEx charity which publishes video and audio extracts from the research on www.healthtalkonline.org. The Department is a founding member of the NIHR School of Primary Care Research.

The Department is currently located across three sites: new offices on the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter (ROQ) just north of the city centre (see http://www.ox.ac.uk/roq/ for more information), at Hythe Bridge Street, in the centre of Oxford, 2 minutes' walk from Oxford train station and in the Rosemary Rue Building on the Old Road Campus

Car parking is very restricted at all sites with only a small percentage of staff being granted an annual parking permit. Bus Pass, Train Pass, bicycle loans and Season Ticket Loan Schemes are all in operation for staff.

For more information on the department please visit: http://www.phc.ox.ac.uk/

The University of Oxford is a member of the Athena SWAN Charter and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award. The Department of Primary Care Health Sciences holds a departmental Bronze Athena award in recognition of its efforts to introduce organisational

and cultural practices that promote gender equality in SET and create a better working environment for both men and women.

Job description

Overview of the role

A statistical/epidemiological modeller is required to work on prognosis and diagnosis with the statistics group the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences. The post holder will work under the supervision of the University Research Lecturer in Medical Statistics, Dr Richard Stevens on a variety of projects that arise in our programme of monitoring research (Monitoring and Diagnosis in Oxford, MaDOx, led by Dr Rafael Perera) and blood pressure research (led by Professor Richard McManus).

The post will be funded for 2 years in the first instance. There is flexibility for this to be a full-time or part-time (at least 50% FTE) appointment.

Where there is no suitable candidate at Grade 7, an appointment may be made at Grade 6 with an appropriate adjustment of duties.

Responsibilities/duties

- Statistical modelling and statistical analysis for clinical risk prediction and blood pressure research, and other projects as they arise within the department
- To support and advise researchers within the department with statistical aspects of their work, including external grant applications where statistical support is required.
- To provide statistical advice and support to a research programme based in the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences aimed at developing our understanding of how people can be better supported in the self-management of long-term conditions, including determining the frequency of monitoring.
- To provide statistical support to students on the MSc in Evidence Based Health Care or other related teaching carried out by the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences.
- To contribute to curriculum development and, where appropriate, to attend University run staff development courses.
- The appointee will have the opportunity to participate in statistical teaching
- To contribute to the dissemination of research findings via peer reviewed publications and presentation at National or International Conferences.
- The appointee will be expected so support Dr Richard Stevens in the administration and smooth running of statistics courses including the preclinical studies statistics workshops

Selection criteria

Where an exceptional candidate does not yet have the full range of essential criteria, consideration will be given for an appointment at Grade 6, with an appropriate adjustment of duties.

Essential

Masters (or equivalent) in a relevant subject
Statistical modelling (e.g. linear, logistic or Cox regression)
Ability to apply statistical analyses to medical research
Ability to write up results of statistical analyses and contribute to peer-reviewed papers.
Ability to communicate clearly and to work well in multi-disciplinary teams
Ability to work to very tight deadlines calmly and efficiently
Commitment to developing new skills where needed (e.g. in statistical modelling, statistical process control)
Ability to manage and prioritise own workload
Experience of the analysis of data from medical studies
Experience using statistical software such as SPSS, Stata, SAS, S-plus or R

Desirable

PhD in a relevant subject
Proven presentation skills
Ability to develop statistical analysis plans for future projects
Project planning and management
Experience of providing statistical advice and support to non-statisticians
Experience of teaching statistics
Contribution to published papers or successful grant applications
Familiarity with prognostic/diagnostic risk scores (e.g. cardiovascular risk)

Working at the University of Oxford

For further information about working at Oxford, including benefits and terms and conditions of employment please see:

http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/research/

How to apply

If you consider that you meet the selection criteria, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a user. You will then be required to complete a number of screens with your application details, relating to your skills and experience.

When prompted, please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them at this stage.

You are also required to upload a CV and supporting statement which explains how you meet the selection criteria for the post. The supporting statement should explain your relevant experience, which may have been gained in employment, education, or you may have taken time away from these activities in order to raise a family, care for a dependant, or travel for example. Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that that you meet the selection criteria outlined above and we are happy to consider evidence of transferable skills or experience which you may have gained outside the context of paid employment or education.

If you are applying for a research post and you have had periods of working part-time, please indicate this on your CV or in your supporting statement. This will ensure that any outputs such as publications are fairly judged when considered alongside the expected outputs of full-time workers.

Where posts are advertised full-time, we **may** be able to consider part-time working or job share arrangements depending on the requirements of the role. If you want to work part-time and this option is not expressly stated in the advert or job information, please email recruit@phc.ox.ac.uk to enquire whether the role you are applying for might be available on a part-time basis.

Please save all uploaded documents to show your name and the document type.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement. Late applications will not be considered.

Incomplete applications will not be considered

Only in exceptional circumstances and with prior agreement can we consider applications submitted via methods other than the on-line recruitment system.

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk

To return to the online application at any stage, please click on the following link www.recruit.ox.ac.uk

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic e-mails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all e-mails.

Information for Priority Candidates
A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment owing to the fact that he or she has been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments and this letter ***must*** *be attached to any application they submit.* ***Please also email recruit@phc.ox.ac.uk to notify us of any priority application submitted.***

The priority application date for this post is noon on Wednesday 23 October 2013.

Full details of the priority application process are available at:
http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/red/redproc/prioritycandidate