

Job title	Researcher - Community Engagement with Health Research (realist review)
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health
Location	The Peter Medawar Building, South parks Road, Oxford
Grade and salary	Grade 7: £31,604 - £38,833 per annum
Hours	Full Time
Contract type	Fixed term - 18 months in the first instance
Reporting to	<i>Associate Professor in the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine at Oxford University of Oxford</i>
Vacancy reference	135282

The role

Community Engagement (CE) is increasingly recognised as a critical aspect of global health research into HIV, malaria, Tuberculosis and a range of other diseases affecting developing countries. CE is important to ensure that research is conducted in an ethical and appropriate manner, drawing on input and insights from communities affected by research. CE is also important for developing engagement with a range of different stakeholder groups who have an interest and relationship with health research programmes and for wider public awareness and understanding of research and scientific processes.

Whilst recent years have seen an expansion of CE activities linked to health research, and greater documentation, a rigorous academic discipline has yet to be established. CE concepts and related practice lack clear and consistent definitions and theoretical underpinnings.

A number of major research programmes funded by Wellcome and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (BMGF), have been at the forefront of developing community engagement strategies and of publishing research on the experiences and challenges of doing CE. Despite an encouraging growth in research and evaluation of CE, much of it supported by Wellcome and BMGF, it is, as yet, difficult to draw firm conclusions about 'what works' and 'what works best' in different contexts. There is a great volume of research, evaluation and writing that lacks clear



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organising concepts and principles. A realist review of CE aims to synthesise the evidence for 'what works, for who in what circumstances' to sharpen the conceptual and practical distinctions in the field of CE and to produce guidance and planning for CE that can be applied by users depending on their context and needs. The review will focus initially on community engagement with Malaria research and related programming as a 'pathfinder' topic, and the focus will widen to other areas of research, as appropriate, as the review progresses.

Overview of the role

As the Researcher in Community Engagement with Health Research, you will be a member of a research group with responsibility for carrying out research on a Wellcome and BMGF funded realist review that seeks to make sense of interventions aiming to engage communities and publics in health research, starting with community engagement around Malaria research.

The project is the result of collaboration between the University of Oxford Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, the KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme, Emory University in Atlanta USA, the Centre for Ethical, Social and Cultural Risk, St Michael's Hospital of Toronto, the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Science University of Oxford and Dr Robin Vincent, an independent research and evaluation consultant.

You will be employed by the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine at Oxford University but will be supported to spend some time visiting partners in Kilifi, Kenya at the KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme. The research synthesis will draw heavily on experiences from community engagement with health research in a Low or Middle Income Country (LMIC) setting, even while it has international scope. As a team we share a strong professional commitment to developing scientific capacity in social science and ethics in global health in LMICs, as part of an active international collaborative community. The way the review is conducted will involve a strand of capacity development in realist approaches for the core team and partner organisation networks which you would be part of.

You will conduct the realist review in close collaboration with Dr Robin Vincent, who will lead the review design and management and be a second main reviewer. You will report to Prof Sassy Molyneux who is an associate professor in the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine at Oxford University of Oxford, based at the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme in Kilifi, Kenya. Dr Robin Vincent is an independent consultant specialising in complexity informed evaluation and research, and a Visiting Fellow at the School of Health and Related Research (SCHARR) at Sheffield University. Additional support and guidance, including training in realist review methodology (if needed) will be provided by Dr Geoff Wong, a leading expert in realist review, based at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences at the University of Oxford. The other team members bring expertise in social science, empirical ethics and community engagement: Professor Sassy Molyneux and Professor Jim Lavery, the Conrad Hilton Chair in Global Health Ethics at Emory University are both leading academics in the field of community Engagement. Dr Emma Richardson also brings skills in realist analysis, bioethics and risk and is based at the Centre for Ethical, Social and Cultural Risk, St Michael's Hospital of Toronto. An information specialist will also assist you with searching and document retrieval.

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Given the geographic dispersal of key team members the post will require good virtual team working. There will be opportunities to work with team members based in Oxford and related realist review networks, and the team will meet face to face periodically and at workshops related to the review process, but on-line communication will predominate.

Work on the realist review will involve: developing a programme theory and search strategies; accessing, selecting and reviewing research papers; managing databases; analysing and synthesising data; dissemination activities: producing the final report to funders; and writing and contributing to papers for peer review publication.

Ideally the candidate will be available to start on 1st September 2018 but we can be flexible about the start date.

Responsibilities/duties

- Execute a realist review in conjunction with and support from the core project team, which includes: developing and refining a programme theory; search strategies; accessing, selecting and reviewing research papers; managing databases; analysing and synthesising data and refining theories as appropriate
- Adapt existing and develop new research methodologies and materials
- Manage own academic research and administrative activities, this involves small scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of project to meet deadlines
- Update relevant knowledge and undertake any further training that may be required to undertake the project
- Collaborate in the preparation of research publications, report, and/or book chapters
- Assist and contribute to the dissemination plan of the project
- Present papers at conferences or public meetings
- Act as a sources of information and advice to other members of the group on methodologies or procedures
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or along
- Carry out the project with colleagues in particular institutions, and research groups

Selection criteria

Essential

- Hold a relevant PhD/DPhil or equivalent qualification, together with relevant experience (especially in secondary research)
- Ability to manage academic research and associated activities
- Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations (especially in complex secondary research projects)



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- Ability to tolerate the ambiguity, uncertainties and non-linear processes intrinsic to realist reviews
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings
- Possess sufficient Information Technology (computer) skills to meet the needs of the project
- Willingness to learn new research skills
- Willingness to work flexibly in order to meet project's demands
- Willingness to travel within the UK as needed for project meetings and occasionally overseas, in particular to Kenya for short meetings

Desirable

- Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the topic
- Prior research experiences in realist research
- Experience of independently managing a discrete area of a research project
- Experience of actively collaborating in the development of research articles for publication

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all of our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2014/15 exceeded £522.9m and ranked first in the UK for university spin-



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outs, with more than 130 spin-off companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Medical Sciences

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized 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: www.medsci.ox.ac.uk

Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM)

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM) is one of the largest departments of the University of Oxford and is part of the Medical Sciences Division, with responsibility for a significant part of the teaching of clinical students within the Medical School. The Department also has a substantial research programme which requires high quality administrative management.

NDM has significant financial turnover and complexity, resulting from its diverse research portfolio, its geographical spread and its close links with NHS funding and strategic teams involved in the development and delivery of increasingly integrated clinical research platforms.

For more information please visit: <http://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home>

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The University of Oxford is a member of the [Athena SWAN Charter](http://www.athenaswan.org/) and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award. The Nuffield Department of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN 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.

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/working-for-ndm/aboutndmatheneswan/



Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health

Tropical Medicine and Global Health

The Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health is a world leading Centre within the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Oxford, comprised of research groups who are permanently based in Africa and Asia as well as across two sites in Oxford. Our research ranges from clinical studies to behavioral sciences, with capacity building integral to all of our activities.

Our research is conducted at three Wellcome Trust Major Overseas Programmes in Kenya, Thailand and Viet Nam as well as a growing Centre in Oxford. The Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health also brings together a number of sister groups in Laos, Tanzania, Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Cambodia and Nepal, as well as multiple collaborators around the world.

Tackling infectious diseases, which kill many millions of people every year, is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. We are researching solutions to the increasingly urgent problems these diseases cause.

The Centre's annual turnover is in excess of £48m per annum with over 100 externally funded research grants and donations.

For more information please visit: <http://www.tropicalmedicine.ox.ac.uk/home>

How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/professionalandmanagement/>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/research/>

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants). *If you are using the application form with inbuilt supporting statement there is no facility for applicants to attach documents so this paragraph should be removed.*

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.



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Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename. (*Customise this statement to confirm the document(s) you would like the applicant to attach, but make sure that you keep the reference to PDF. See section 1.4 of QRG [REC01 Creating a Vacancy \(Recruitment and Personnel\)](#) for guidance on selecting the appropriate application form*).

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have 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.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from [www.ox.ac.uk/about the_university/jobs/support/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/). To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

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

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:

www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at

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grade 8 and above. The justification for this is explained at:
www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revaim/.

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revproc/

From 1 October 2017, there is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.



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Benefits of working at the University

Training and Development

A range of training and development opportunities are available at the University. Further details can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html.

For research staff only: Support for Research Staff

There is a particularly wide range of support for career development for research staff. Please visit: www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers to find out more.

Pensions

The University offers generous occupational pension schemes for eligible staff members. Further details can be found at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epp/pensions/pensionspolicy/.

Information for international staff *(or those relocating from another part of the UK)*

A wealth of information is available on the University's International Staff website for staff who are relocating to Oxford from abroad, at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/.

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The Newcomers' Club is aimed at helping partners of newly-arrived visiting scholars, graduate students and academic members of the University to settle in and to meet people in Oxford.

Transport schemes

The University offers a range of travel schemes and public transport travel discounts to staff. Full details are available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/.

University Club and University Sports Facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a Club bar, a cafe and sporting facilities, including a gym. See www.club.ox.ac.uk for all further details.

University staff can use the University Sports Centre at discounted rates, and have the chance to join sports clubs. Please visit www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Childcare and Childcare Vouchers

The University offers quality childcare provision services at affordable prices to its employees. For full details about the services offered, please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/. **NB: Due to the high demand for the University's nursery places there is a long waiting list.**

The University also offers nursery fee payment schemes to eligible staff as an opportunity to save tax and national insurance on childcare costs. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Disabled staff

The University is committed to supporting members of staff with a disability or long-term health condition and has a dedicated Staff Disability Advisor. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff for further details.



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BUPA - Eduhealth

Bupa Eduhealth Essentials private medical insurance offers special rates for University of Oxford staff and their families www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site/.

All other benefits

For other benefits, such as free entry to colleges, the Botanic Gardens and staff discounts offered by third party companies, please see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/.

