Job title	Postdoctoral Research Scientist
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Nuffield Department of Medicine
Location	Pandemic Sciences Institute, Li Ka Shing Centre for Health and Information Discovery, Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7LF
Grade and salary	Grade 7: Salary in range £37,524 - £45,763 per annum (pro rata)
Hours	Full time (part-time hours considered, a minimum of 80% FTE)
Contract type	Fixed-term contract until 30 June 2026 Funding is provided by EDCTP and Wellcome
Reporting to	Louise Sigfrid, Senior Clinical Researcher
Vacancy reference	174706

Additional information	This role meets the eligibility requirements for a Skilled Worker Certificate of Sponsorship under UK Visas and Immigration legislation. Therefore, the Nuffield Department of Medicine welcomes applications from international applicants who require a visa.
About us	• University of Oxford - www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation • Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM) - https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk • Unit - www.psi.ox.ac.uk
What we offer	https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/staff-benefits • An excellent contributory pension scheme • 38 days annual leave • A comprehensive range of childcare services • Family leave schemes • Cycle loan scheme • Discounted bus travel and Season Ticket travel loans • Membership to a variety of social and sports clubs • A welcoming and diverse community

The role

This is an exciting opportunity to join the new Pandemic Preparedness Analytical Capacity and funding Tracking Programme (Pandemic PACT) team, within the Pandemic Sciences Institute (PSI) Policy and Practice Research Group at the Pandemic Sciences Institute, at the University of Oxford.

We are seeking to appoint a Postdoctoral Research Scientist to join our new, dynamic Pandemic PACT team, to contribute to our mission to strengthen capacity and capability for effective, coordinated and equitable research responses to infectious disease outbreaks of epidemic and pandemic potential.

As part of this mission we are establishing living platforms for tracking existing evidence on high priority infectious diseases, to identify gaps in the evidence-base to inform research prioritisation and coordination in inter-epidemic times and in response to outbreaks. This is a topical project, which will be carried out in collaboration with the wider Pandemic PACT team and international collaborators. The project builds on a Rapid Research Needs Appraisal (RRNA) methodology developed previously in collaboration with Cochrane Response and Evidence Aid UK (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31185979/).

In addition to the RRNA methodology, during the pandemic, GloPID-R and the UK Collaborative for Development Research (UKCDR) established the COVID-19 Project Tracker (COVID-19 Research Project Tracker by UKCDR & GloPID-R | UKCDR) to map research investments. These methods have been particularly important in highlighting the lack of research funding and evidence generation in lower-middle income countries (LMICs) and alignment to research priorities of local relevance. We are building on and bringing these tools together to establish a system tracking existing evidence and funding investments. The RRNA and funding tracking tool will collate clinical data for a wide range of epidemic-prone diseases on an ongoing basis, mapping these against research funding agendas in order to support coordination of the research response ahead of and during any new epidemics. The Pandemic PACT programme will collaborate closely with the GloPID-R Regional Hubs in Asia and Africa to support delivery of high-quality outputs and data use and analysis in different settings. Pandemic PACT's research and analysis will directly inform the GloPID-R's response plan providing information to support the world's major research funders and key policy stakeholders such as WHO, GAVI and CEPI.

You will be a key member, with responsibility for supporting the analysis and dissemination of data to diverse stakeholders (global research funders, clinical research networks, public health agencies and other stakeholders). A key part of your role will be to support the analysis and explore automated methods for sustaining the RRNA 'living' platform in collaboration with our strategic, international network of RRNA collaborators to facilitate regular updates and to respond to new as well as (re)-emerging outbreaks. This includes delivery of the RRNA and timely data analysis. This also will include smart ways of visualising the data to facilitate interpretation. The data will be disseminated as open access on our Pandemic PACT online dashboard, in reports, manuscripts and directly to policymakers via stakeholder meetings.

An interest in infectious diseases, outbreak preparedness and response and good knowledge of analysing and interpreting data is an advantage. Furthermore, previous experience in coding, data analysis and data visualisation are beneficial. This work will be delivered in close collaboration with multidisciplinary teams including Cochrane South Africa, Cochrane Response and stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds. You will be able to adapt to different contexts, uncertainty and change as outbreaks and priorities may change during the project. You will contribute to the dissemination of data via high-level stakeholder meetings, peer-reviewed publications and policy briefings. Overall leadership and oversight of the platform and work will be provided by Dr Louise Sigfrid.

You will be based at the Pandemic Sciences Institute in Oxford. There may be occasional travel within the UK and internationally.

The PI for Pandemic PACT is Dr Alice Norton, who leads the GloPID-R Research and Policy Team in Oxford. The post will be overseen and line managed by Dr Louise Sigfrid, GloPID-R Senior Clinical Researcher and Public Health Specialist.

Responsibilities

You will:

- Manage your own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management of the RRNA platform in collaboration with the other post-doc working on the project.
- Support the data analysis across priority disease families on a day-to-day basis, and co-ordinate multiple aspects of work in collaboration with internal and external collaborators to meet deadlines.
- Adapt existing and develop new research methodologies and materials. Explore integration of automated methods for sustainability and effective analysis and dissemination of data for action.
- Work in collaboration with the wider team to establish and sustain the platform for carrying out RRNAs for high-priority diseases in preparedness time and during outbreaks.
- Establish timely, high quality RRNA analysis updates in preparedness times and during outbreaks.
- Explore and inform the data dissemination visualisation for our dashboard, reports and presentations
- Support the delivery of RRNAs and RRNA updates in collaboration with our team and international reviewers (including screening of articles, data extraction and data coding)
- Contribute to, sustain, and support our network of international RRNA collaborators
- Support the wider Pandemic PACT team by providing analysis and data visualisation and dissemination support.
- Provide support for the wider RRNA team in delivering RRNA updates and new RRNAs including screening of records for inclusion and data extraction or mapping as and when required
- Provide support for data analysis, visualisation and dissemination for action via reports, dashboard, abstracts, manuscripts, and meetings for the RRNA team and the wider PACT team.
- Support presentations to external stakeholders via meetings, and conferences, and write up results for reports and publications.
- Prepare working theories and analyse qualitative and/or quantitative data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining theories as appropriate.
- Contribute ideas for new research projects, and develop ideas for generating research income.
- Collaborate in the preparation of research publications, book chapters, and reports.
- Present papers at conferences or public meetings and present findings to internal and external stakeholders at regular intervals.
- Act as a source of information and advice to other members of the group on methodologies or procedures.
- Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups.
- Represent the research group at seminars and external meetings, as well as participating in weekly team meetings and other department team meetings.
- Participate in and support the public engagement and widening access activities of the Department and the University. This is anticipated to be not more than 2 days per year.
- Undertake mandatory training as required by the University, Division and Department. The specific list of training courses may change from time-to-time, in response to both legal and internal University requirements.

Selection criteria

Essential

- Hold a PhD/DPhil (or close to completion) in a relevant subject, such as epidemiology, medical statistics/data science, medicine, public health, infectious diseases, pharmacology, or microbiology.
- Sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to work within the research programme.
- Experience in data analysis and data visualisation.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to present findings at conferences and meetings and to write for publications.
- Experience of managing research projects.
- Experience of qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis.
- Possess sufficient expertise to conduct high-quality research programmes in a related field.
- An understanding of global public health, challenges of implementing research in different resourced settings. infectious disease and outbreak research response.

Desirable

- An ability to adapt to different context, uncertainty and change as outbreaks and priorities may change during the project.
- Experience of working in collaboration with multi-disciplinary organisations nationally and/or internationally.
- Experience of providing specialist advice to high level stakeholders.
- Experience of AI, automated methods.
- Experience of setting up or managing databases or systems.
- Understanding of evidence review methodologies.
- A background in global outbreak related research initiatives; preparedness and/or response.

Pre-employment screening

Standard checks

If you are offered the post, the offer will be subject to standard pre-employment checks. You will be asked to provide: proof of your right-to-work in the UK; proof of your identity; and (if we haven't done so already) we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities for which you may need us to make appropriate adjustments.

Please read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures at: https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks

Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties

This job includes hazards or safety-critical activities. If you are offered the post, you will be asked to complete a health questionnaire which will be assessed by our Occupational Health Service, and the offer of employment will be subject a successful outcome of this assessment.

The hazards or safety-critical duties involved are as follows:

- Lone Working
- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

How to apply

Applications are made through our e-recruitment system and you will find all the information you need about how to apply on our Jobs website https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/how-to-apply.

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.

As part of your application you will be asked to provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now. You will be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of 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). Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename. Please note using a long file name may prevent you from uploading your documents.

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

All applications must be received by **midday** UK time 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 department(s).

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).

If you need help

Application FAQs, including technical troubleshooting advice is available at: https://staff.web.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support-faqs. Non-technical questions about this job should be addressed to the recruiting department directly recruitment@ndm.ox.ac.uk

To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our online recruitment portal to confirm receipt of your application. **Please check your spam/junk mail** if you do not receive this email. Important information for candidates

Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for very senior research posts at **grade RSIV/D35 and clinical equivalents E62 and E82**, which with effect from 1 October 2023 will be 30 September before the 70th birthday. The justification for this is explained at: https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra.

For **existing** employees on these grades, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at other grades 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.