

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Postgraduate Research Fellow - Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, University of Ioannina School of Medicine

Job Summary: The Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the University of Ioannina School of Medicine in Ioannina, Greece, seeks a Postgraduate Research Fellow (preferable at Postdoctoral level) in Epidemiology/Biostatistics to work on two projects equally divided effort-wise, the EU-WISH Joint Action funded by HADEA and the Bladder Cancer Evidence Map embedded within the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modelling Network (CISNET).

The focus of EU-WISH is to support activities to enhance and improve national public health wastewater surveillance capacities by strengthening knowledge exchange and sharing best practices based on scientific evidence. The activities of this joint action will target and bring together relevant structures at national level and will facilitate the integration and complementarity of wastewater surveillance with other surveillance systems with a public health perspective to strengthen preparedness and response to cross border health threats. EU-WISH is a strong consortium that can contribute to a vision and activities for wastewater surveillance at not only European, but also global level. The post holder will contribute to addressing the evaluation of the effectiveness of wastewater surveillance as a public health surveillance and preparedness tool. Approaches used will include defining the effectiveness attributes (target populations, wastewater surveillance components, comparison, effectiveness outcomes); creating an open-access, interactive effectiveness evidence map; piloting a multi-country survey on the attributes related to the wastewater surveillance evaluation; performing a mixed-methods evidence synthesis by integration of diverse heterogeneous types of qualitative and quantitative evidence and by consideration of effect modifiers; forming the framework for a cost-effectiveness approach according to the WHO guidance and exploring the uncertainty thereof; proposing an update of the ECDC guidelines for evaluation of surveillance systems integrating wastewater surveillance.

The focus of the Bladder Cancer Evidence Map embedded within the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modelling Network (CISNET) is to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of population- and person-level approaches to bladder cancer prevention, detection, and management given current knowledge, uncertainties, and constraints. The post holder will contribute to extracting sufficient information to help identify relevant studies for a range of topics including, but not limited to, existing mathematical models, autopsy data, cohorts of high-risk persons and BC patients, diagnostic studies, and intervention studies. The post holder will also perform evidence syntheses including multiple-treatments meta-analyses related to diagnostic performance studies, studies related to the comparisons of surveillance and screening strategies, and studies assessing treatment effects of various interventions and treatment strategies.

Duties and responsibilities: We are looking to appoint an individual with a background in epidemiology, biostatistics, data analytics or other related discipline, with strong statistical and data management skills. The post holder will contribute to the project by conducting data management and statistical analyses, interpreting results and drafting manuscripts. The postholder will work with Prof. Evangelia Ntzani. The post-holder will be based within the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the University of Ioannina Medical School in Ioannina, Greece.

Essential requirements: The post-holder should have a postgraduate degree, ideally a doctoral degree, in epidemiology, biostatistics or a closely aligned field, or have equivalent professional experience. He/she should have strong data management skills (using Stata and/or R) alongside solid statistical skills.

Further Information: The post is full-time and fixed-term for 12 months, with a possibility of extension to 24 months depending on performance. For additional information and formal discussion, please contact Professor Evangelia Ntzani (entzani@uoi.gr). To apply for the position, please send a full CV and a cover letter explaining your suitability for the project to Professor Evangelia Ntzani (entzani@uoi.gr).

Closing date: April 20th, 2024

Starting date: June 1st, 2024 (tentative)

Annual gross salary: €22,000 - €25,000