



**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
CHRONIC DISEASE INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA**

Post-doctoral research Fellowship

Purpose:

The Chronic Disease Initiative for Africa (CDIA) within the Department of Medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) at UCT is conducting a study entitled; *'Exploring the treatment burden and capacity for self-care among patients with HIV/NCD multimorbidity in South Africa to inform the development of interventions aimed at reducing workload and improving capacity (EXTRAS).'* The study aims to explore, with people living with HIV/ NCD multimorbidity and their primary carers or supporters, interactions between their experiences of health services, treatment workload, symptom burden and capacity for self-management in settings characterised by socioeconomic disadvantage.

Applications are invited for the fellowship from suitably qualified individuals. The successful applicant will be working with CDIA Director, Professor Naomi Levitt and Principal Investigator, Associate Professor Katherine Murphy. The candidate will be required to undertake primary data collection using qualitative research methods, conduct qualitative data analysis and write up the data to inform the design of an intervention to support patients living with multimorbidity, and their primary carers.

Conditions:

- Applicants must have completed their doctoral degrees within the last 5 years and may not previously have held a permanent professional or academic post.
- No benefits or allowances are included in the Fellowship.
- As part of his/her professional development, the successful candidate may be required to participate in a limited capacity in departmental activities, such as teaching and student supervision.
- The successful applicant will be required to comply with the university's approved policies, procedures, and practises for the postdoctoral sector.
- The successful applicant will be required to register as a Postdoctoral fellow at the University of Cape Town.
- There are no fringe benefits, thus, the successful candidate is responsible for his or her own medical aid and insurance arrangements. Tax-free status will be arranged with the South African Revenue Services (SARS).
- The fellowship call will close once suitable candidates have been identified.
- Is a South African citizen or already holds a valid student/visitor/research visa endorsed for post-doctoral research at UCT

Value and tenure:

The value of the bursary will be within UCT's prescribed range, carries no fringe benefits and is for full time research. The project will run for 1-2 years depending on the work and performance of the candidate.

Fellow requirements:

- A PhD degree that has included in depth training in qualitative research methods.
- Demonstratable experience of conducting primary data collection including individual in-depth interviews and focus groups, qualitative data analysis and the writing up of qualitative research reports for publication.
- Experience in initiating and managing fieldwork and project related activities for qualitative research in the community and/or health system.
- Good organisational, communication and computing skills.

- Enjoy interacting with people and listening to their life experiences.
- Ability to work as a member of a project team and engage with people across diverse settings and cultures.
- The ability to speak and write fluently in English.
- Driving licence

Advantageous:

- Undergraduate degree in psychology, anthropology, public health
- Experience of working in health promotion/ self-management intervention development and familiarity with behaviour change and treatment burden theory
- Fluency in Xhosa

Please note:

Preference will be given to candidates who meet essential criteria and hold a national passport of a country that is exempt from visas for visits to South Africa of up to 90 days per annum (see <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>).

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a single PDF file to Sharon.Wakefield@uct.ac.za

- A cover letter
- Application form – **attached below**
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of academic transcripts

The post is based in the CDIA, located within the Old Main Building of Groote Schuur Hospital .

Further queries may be directed to Katherine.Murphy@uct.ac.za

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to: disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications; change the conditions of award or not to make awards at all.



PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT

Surname								Title							
First names								Male		Female					
Place of birth						Date of birth		y	y	y	y	m	m	d	d
Identity number															
African*		Coloured*		Indian*		White*		other* (please							
Citizenship															
Telephone						Fax (if applicable)									
E-mail address															
Home address including postal code						Postal address including postal code									
Degree for which you are currently registered if									Year & month degree						

QUALIFICATIONS OBTAINED

Degree/Qualification	Institution	Year
Title of project for Master's/Doctoral degree		

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Please provide the names and contact details (e-mail and telephone number) of three referees.

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I certify that the information supplied in this application is correct and true

Signature of applicant		Date	
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RESPONSIBILITIES AND PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post title:	Postdoc Research Fellow	
Academic Unit/Service:	Department of Medicine, Chronic Disease initiative for Africa (CDIA)	
Faculty:	Health Sciences, UCT	
Purpose:	<p>The fellow will be responsible for conducting the following qualitative research study: ‘Exploring the treatment burden and capacity for self-care among patients with HIV/NCD multimorbidity in South Africa to inform the development of interventions aimed at reducing workload and improving capacity (EXTRA).</p> <p>The aim of the study is to explore the experiences of people living with HIV/ NCD multimorbidity and their primary carers or supporters, in relation to their use of health services, treatment workload, symptom burden and capacity for self-management in settings characterised by socioeconomic disadvantage. The candidate will undertake primary data collection using qualitative research methods, conduct qualitative data analysis for the purposes of designing an intervention to support patients living with multimorbidity, and their primary supporters/carers.</p> <p>The study is funded by the MRC in the UK and is a collaboration between Professors Carl May (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and Francis Mair (University of Glasgow) in the UK and the CDIA, based at the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa (SA).</p> <p>The fellow will be expected to work independently, with support and oversight from the CDIA Director, Professor Levitt and senior researcher, Associate Professor Katherine Murphy. The SA team, including the fellow, will liaise closely with the UK collaborators.</p>	
Key accountabilities/primary responsibilities		% Time
1.	To undertake a review of the relevant literature and theory; plan and initiate the fieldwork	10%
2.	Recruit fieldworkers (one rural; one urban setting) to assist with recruitment of participants and organising of the interviews; manage fieldworkers’ performance and ensure all research procedures meet the required standards of Ethics approval and UCT financial policies	10%
3.	Conduct interviews; organise translators where necessary and transcription or recordings; organise and manage data security and data transfer to the UK	20%
4.	Undertake qualitative data analysis and write up findings in collaboration with the research team	25%
5.	Organise and help facilitate task group meetings with healthcare providers in the 2 study settings	10%
6.	Take a lead role in preparation of report to funders, presentations, academic publications, and policy briefings and provide support to others in the study team as appropriate	20%
7.	Cooperate closely with and support operational/administrative staff in the CDIA/Dept of Medicine and participate in CDIA core activities with other researchers, such as journal clubs, staff meetings, annual meetings, CDIA network activities; seminars, training sessions, protocol development meetings and discussions about other studies etc.	5%
	Engage with, support, and assist other early career researchers in the CDIA where appropriate	

Internal and external relationships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct responsibility to CDIA line manager and director • Liaison with all investigators in SA and UK research team • Additional reporting to external funding body • The post involves collaborating with senior research and clinical scientists, social scientists, other early career researchers, as well as field workers, administrative/operational staff in CDIA and Dept of Medicine at UCT.
Special Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The post may involve non-standard hours of work from time to time, to complete tasks to short deadlines. • There may be an opportunity to attend a conference for the purpose of disseminating research. • There may be a requirement to attend occasional research meetings with collaborators outside CDIA.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	How to be assessed
Qualifications, knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in health psychology or a related social science discipline • In-depth understanding of qualitative research methods • Track record of published qualitative research studies and presentations at academic meetings, including conferences. • Demonstrated experience of qualitative data collection and analysis • Interest in treatment burden theory and intervention development • Experience in initiating and managing fieldwork and project related activities for qualitative research in the community and/or public health system in SA. • Experience of qualitative data management. • Excellent organisational, communication and computing skills. • The ability to speak and write fluently in English. • Track record of authorship in published reports of qualitative studies • Driving licence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of NVIVO, Atlas or a similar package. • Knowledge of SA's public health system, particularly in areas of HIV and NCD care • Experience of working in health promotion/ self-management intervention development and familiarity with behaviour change and treatment burden theory • Fluency is Xhosa 	CV Application Interview
Planning and organising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven ability to organise a range of research activities to deadline and quality standards expected by the CDIA and University of Cape Town • Ability to plan and organise work independently and as part of a team. • Able to maintain judgement under pressure and meet deadlines. • Methodical, practical with attention to detail. 		CV Application Interview
Problem solving and initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to develop understanding of complex problems and apply in-depth knowledge to address them. • Analytical skills. 	Able to identify relevant theoretical and	CV Application

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to identify broad trends to assess deep-rooted and complex issues. • Able to apply originality in modifying existing approaches to solve problems. • Able to prioritise and take initiative on concurrent research tasks. • Innovative, able to problem solve and be decisive. 	methodological issues that need to be addressed.	Interview
Management and teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to work independently but also in conjunction with other members of the research teams involved with the study, including overseas investigators. • Good interpersonal skills. • Ability to work as a member of a project team and engage with people across diverse settings and cultures. 		CV Application Interview
Communicating and influencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good written and oral communication skills. • The ability to communicate research and social science concepts to clinical scientists and other researchers not trained in social sciences. • Also required to communicate in non-technical language (orally and written) with research participants, healthcare providers and operational staff for whom English is not their first language. • Work with colleagues in other work areas/institutions, contributing specialist knowledge to achieve outcomes. 		CV Application Interview
Other skills and behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word processing, internet, bibliographic search skills and bibliographic software (e.g. Endnote). • General knowledge of research Governance. • Understanding of relevant Health & Safety issues. • Positive attitude to colleagues and students and an appetite for working in an interdisciplinary and international research team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of NVIVO, Atlas or a similar package. 	CV Application Interview
Special requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy interacting with people and listening to their life experiences. • Interest in HIV and NCD models of care and patient empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of contemporary issues in public health in SA and developing countries, especially in areas of HIV and NCDs. 	CV Application Interview