



Job Description

Job title	Research Assistant
Department/School	Psychology; Bath Centre for Pain Research
Job family	Education and Research
Grade	6
Reporting to	Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Investigator (CI) for area of research
Responsible for	No staff management responsibilities
Location	University of Bath premises

Background and context

The Bath Centre for Pain Research (BCPR) at the University of Bath is the home to a team of interdisciplinary researchers that investigate the effect that pain has on people's lives. It has a focus on exploring the way psychological and social factors impact on pain, and how this understanding might translate into better ways to manage painful conditions. The core areas of work are in: cognitive processes in pain, social factors, child and family, evidence-based medicine and digital development.

The Centre is leading an established multi-institutional consortium (CRIISP) that seeks to better understand how psychosocial mechanisms impact on chronic pain. It will also explore how these factors might work alongside biology, in order to provide a better understanding of pain and how it is managed. The consortium is funded under the Advanced Pain Discovery Platform programme, which is part of a joint and equal investment of £14 million by UKRI and Versus Arthritis. For UKRI, the initiative is led by the Medical Research Council, with support from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). This research programme seeks to scale up research into chronic pain to improve outcomes for the many people living with painful and debilitating conditions.

Post holder

We are seeking to recruit a fixed-term full time, research associate post to support the programme of work that we are leading on from Bath. The role will support new studies, literature reviews, and work to identify the best psychosocial constructs to understand pain. The post holder will support the recruitment, testing and monitoring of people with clinical pain. These focus on cognitive/emotional and behavioural factors in pain and support the analysis of datasets. The role will also support the dissemination and public engagement activities and involve working across the wider consortium. The post holder will need to take an active part in the

work of the whole consortium including through participation at events and workshops, providing support and advice in keeping with their role and level of appointment, as well as engaging with patient and public focus groups and other stakeholders.

Job purpose

To provide subject-specific research assistance to a Principal Investigator (PI)/Co-Investigator (CI) and their research team for a specified grant.

Main duties and responsibilities

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| 1 | <p>Assist with research by typically (<i>as appropriate to discipline</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparing, conducting and recording the outcome of field work; • developing questionnaires and conducting surveys • conducting literature and database searches |
| 2 | Provide support to PI and other research staff with project management (for example, organising meetings and corresponding with partners). |
| 3 | Contribute to the production of research reports and publications. |
| 4 | Participate regularly in group meetings and prepare and deliver presentations to research team. |
| 5 | Assist with supervising undergraduate student projects. |
| 6 | Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism to inform research activity. |
| 7 | <p>As a member of Research Staff at the University, you will be encouraged to take up a minimum of 10 days' professional development pro rata per year. You should use this time to spend on activities that will benefit your career development and your personal growth. Examples include: attending workshops, career development coaching, mentoring, training courses, participation in networks, attending conferences, writing fellowship or funding applications, and representing the research staff community on committees or working groups.</p> <p>The University, as a signatory to the Concordat for the Career Development of Researchers, is committed to its principles. We aim to provide a supportive and inclusive environment, where researchers' contributions are recognised and valued, and we provide opportunities to enable research staff to develop their full potential.</p> |

	<p>You will from time to time be required to undertake other duties of a similar nature as reasonably required by your line manager. You are required to follow all University policies and procedures at all times and take account of University guidance.</p>
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Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEng) in a subject relevant to the research activity	√	
Master level qualification		√
Experience/Knowledge		
Relevant work experience in a related area to the project		√
Demonstrated depth and breadth of specialist knowledge of subject matter to effectively contribute to the research programme	√	
Demonstrated awareness of latest developments in the field of research	√	
Skills		
Ability to organise and prioritise own workload to meet required deadlines	√	
Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes	√	
Excellent verbal, interpersonal and written communication skills	√	
Highly competent in IT packages as appropriate to discipline/area of research	√	
Attributes		
Commitment to working within professional and ethical codes of conduct	√	
Innovation and developing creative solutions	√	
Self-confidence when communicating with a wide range of stakeholders	√	
Commitment to safe working practices	√	
Ability to work independently	√	
Commitment to excellence in research	√	
Ability to be an effective team worker	√	