

NIAA-HSRC Social Scientist

Directorate: RCoA Clinical Quality & Research
Reports to: Director, Health Services Research Centre
Deputy Director, Health Services Research Centre
RCoA Director of Clinical Quality & Research
RCoA Head of Research

1. Job purpose

To serve as the Social Scientist for the NIAA-Health Services Research Centre, based at the Royal College of Anaesthetists, conducting social science evaluations to underpin and advance HSRC research projects.

2. Key tasks and responsibilities

Key deliverables for the role are to:

- Conduct qualitative (ethnographic) evaluation of the national Perioperative Quality Improvement Programme (PQIP).
- Establish a mobile embedded research unit (to be known as the Perioperative Improvement Research Laboratory (PIRL) to conduct mixed methods evaluations of novel services and innovations related to perioperative medicine, pain management and anaesthesia.

In addition, the role holder will be expected to:

- Work closely with members of the NIAA-HSRC Executive Management Board and PQIP Project Teams, in particular the HSRC Director and Deputy Director.
- Attend meetings of the HSRC Executive Management Board (every 2 months) and PQIP Project Team meetings (monthly) and provide reports to these groups, both written and verbal.
- Supervise junior researchers.
- Undertake fieldwork in different geographic locations within the United Kingdom.

3. Skills, knowledge and experience

- Experience of ethnographic methods (and able to work independently using these methods)
- Familiarity with the UK NHS system and ideally some experience of perioperative, pain or anaesthesia services.
- Experience of supervising more junior researchers.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Able to work well within a diverse academic and clinical team.
- Willing to travel occasionally within the UK and work flexibly when required.

Further detail is provided in the Person Specification, below.

4. Remuneration

An award equivalent to a maximum 0.5WTE salary is available for 3 years. The candidate must be working within a UK university to whom the grant can be awarded to provide salary backfill. No University estates costs or overheads are provided; however, 'on-costs' such as NI and superannuation will be paid. Travel expenses will be reimbursed for HSRC meetings and fieldwork related to the PQIP programme.

Person Specification	Criteria (E) Essential (D) Desirable	Assessed at (A) Application (I) Interview
Qualifications		
PhD (or in final stages of preparation/submission) in applied social sciences OR evidence of an equivalent level of attainment in research publications	E	A/I
Publications as first or last author in internationally refereed journals on topics mentioned in Job Description	E	A/I
Experience/Skills: An established track record in:		
Ethnographic field work	E	A/I
Evaluation of NHS services	D	A/I
Evaluation of perioperative, pain management or anaesthesia services	D	A/I
Working within an embedded research team	D	A/I
External research grant funding in applied health (as co-applicant or PI)	D	A/I
Proven ability and commitment to carry out the highest quality original research to time and budget	E	A/I
Publication in internationally excellent/ world leading (REF2014 3* & 4*) peer-reviewed scientific journals	E	A/I
Presentation at conferences	E	A/I
Working closely with NHS/public health/other non-health sector colleagues	E	A/I
Teaching at a range of levels e.g. Masters, undergraduate	E	A/I
Supporting the organisation and management of teaching programmes	D	A/I
Excellent communication skills/verbal and written; good command of written and spoken English	E	A/I
Working effectively within diverse teams and demonstrating leadership	E	A/I
Knowledge		
In-depth ethnographic methodology	E	A/I
Proficiency in a range of qualitative evaluation and analyses methods	E	A/I
The current NHS/ public health landscape	E	A/I
Current Research Governance structures, rules and processes	D	A/I
General		
Holds the highest ethical and professional standards in research, education and clinical practice and flexible attitude	E	A/I
Commitment to continuing professional development	E	A/I
Willingness and ability to work collaboratively and to routinely meet deadlines and budget constraints	E	A/I

5. Application

Candidates should please send a CV (this **must** include names and contact details for two referees and information on current salary) and a covering letter explaining why they are interested in and suited to this award, to hsrc@rcoa.ac.uk, by **9am Tuesday 29 August 2017**.

Interviews will be held on **Tuesday 19 September 2017** at the Royal College of Anaesthetists, London. Please note that late applications will not be accepted and that the date of interview cannot be moved.