

# ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Assistant Professor in Epidemiology and/or Economics of Maternal and Newborn Health</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
<b>Faculty:</b>	Epidemiology and Population Health
<b>Location:</b>	London
<b>FTE:</b>	1.0
<b>Grade:</b>	Academic scale, grade 7 (£44,978-£51,490)
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Joy Lawn Professor of Maternal Reproductive and Child Health Epidemiology and Mark Jit, Professor in Vaccine Epidemiology
<b>Job Summary:</b>	The postholder will be responsible for methodological and applied research regarding evaluation of epidemiology and cost-effectiveness of maternal Group B Streptococcus vaccines, preparing research findings for scientific publications and policy uptake. They will collaborate closely with researchers in LSHTM, WHO and partners. The postholder will be based in Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology. Ideally the postholder will have strengths in both epidemiological and economic analysis, but we will consider a candidate with strong skills in one of these areas.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is a world-leading centre for research and postgraduate education in public and global health. Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

Founded in 1899, the School has expanded in recent years at its two main sites on Keppel Street and Tavistock Place. Our staff, students and alumni work in more than 150 countries in government, academia, international agencies and health services. Research income has grown to more than £110 million per year from national and international funding sources including UK government and research councils, the European Union, the Wellcome Trust, Gates Foundation and other philanthropic sources. The School's multidisciplinary expertise includes clinicians, epidemiologists, statisticians, social scientists, molecular biologists and immunologists, and we work with partners worldwide to support the development of teaching and research capacity.

Our education provision has expanded to more than 1,000 London-based Master's and Research students, 3,000 studying postgraduate courses by distance learning, and 1,000 each year on short courses and continuous professional development. Our free online courses (MOOCs) are studied by more than 30,000 participants globally.

The School performs well in various global university league tables. In the US News Best Global Universities Ranking 2017, we are ranked sixth in the world (together with Oxford University) in the fields of social sciences and public health. In the 2016 CWTS Leiden Ranking, the School was ranked fifth in the world for research impact across all disciplines, based on the share of institutions' outputs within the top 1% of papers by citation in all areas of science and independent of size of output.

The School was named University of the Year 2016 by Times Higher Education, in recognition of our response to the Ebola epidemic. The School is a member of the M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centres, Universities and National Academies, the Association of Schools of Public Health

in the European Region, and the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.

## **FACULTY INFORMATION**

The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH) houses a large number of epidemiologists, demographers, statisticians and nutritionists working on issues of major public health importance in the UK and globally. EPH has approximately 400 staff members organised into four research departments.

Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology  
Department of Medical Statistics  
Department of Non-communicable Disease Epidemiology  
Department of Population Health

The Faculty has a teaching programme consisting of ten MSc courses: Epidemiology, Demography and Health, Medical Statistics, Public Health for Development (run jointly with the Faculties of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and Public Health & Policy), Nutrition for Global Health, Reproductive & Sexual Health Research, Veterinary Epidemiology (run jointly with the Royal Veterinary College), Global Mental Health (run jointly with Kings College London - Institute of Psychiatry) and the Distance Learning courses in Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Demography in Health. The Faculty also has approximately 120 research students studying for an MPhil, PhD or DrPH degree. The Dean of Faculty is Professor John Edmunds.

## **OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH**

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) has been awarded a prestigious three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to collaborate with the World Health Organization in developing a comprehensive value proposition for the development and first use of GBS (Group B Streptococcus) vaccines.

The role of the postholder is to investigate and develop a comprehensive value proposition for development and first use of Group B Streptococcus (GBS) vaccination for pregnant women. This will involve an assessment of the health and economic burden of GBS disease, as well as the potential costs and benefits that can be expected through vaccination. The postholder will help to coordinate field studies across several countries to provide additional epidemiological and economic data as well as leading other studies to obtain, synthesise and analyse key data. He/she will also design a range of innovative economic analyses (including cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, budget impact and equity analyses) to understand the full value of GBS vaccines in a variety of settings (including low, middle and high-income countries).

The data, tools, analyses and reports generated from this research are expected to spur investment into full development of candidate vaccines, as well as guide the global public health community around investment into vaccine implementation and surveillance. The work will be done in close partnership with the World Health Organization, who will lead work with stakeholders to understand operational considerations around maternal GBS vaccination such as schedules, service delivery and uptake. Hence this research is highly likely to have a major impact on global child mortality around the world.

The wider study is led by Professor Joy Lawn, Director of Maternal, Reproductive, and Child Health and is co-led by Professor Mark Jit, Professor of Vaccine Epidemiology. The post holder will be part of two groups with a global reputation in maternal/child health and vaccine economics respectively. A strong post holder has very good prospects of developing a long-term career within one or both groups. The post holder will also have the opportunity to interact with colleagues in the Centre for Maternal, Adolescent, Reproductive, and Child Health; the Vaccine Centre and the Centre for Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases at LSHTM.

The portfolio of duties outlined below will vary in accordance with the detailed expectations of the role and any additional role to which you are formally appointed (attached), all of which may be varied from time to time, and as agreed at your annual Performance and Development Review (PDR).

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Main Activities and Responsibilities**

#### **KNOWLEDGE GENERATION**

1. To deliver high quality research & scholarship in your field of study, individually and in collaboration with others, by applying for external grants/fellowships from good<sup>1</sup> research funders, and publishing peer-reviewed outputs as lead and co-author;
2. To contribute to research degree student supervision;
3. To manage research grants and promote and ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant School policies;
4. To support the development of early-career researchers;
5. To design, establish and lead field studies to collect relevant data for burden and economic evaluations of maternal GBS vaccination, such as long-term outcomes and costs of disease and health-related quality of life associated with vaccine-preventable diseases.
6. To coordinate management of data for the study, plus data analyses on GBS epidemiology and vaccine economics.
7. To design and lead economic analyses to understand the value of maternal GBS vaccination, including potentially cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, budget impact and equity analyses. To liaise closely with key partners, including the World Health Organization and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to discuss findings and determine next steps.
8. To lead and contribute to the development of publications and other forms of dissemination material, reports and oral presentations to inform evidence-based policy decisions by national and global stakeholders
9. To contribute to other related projects and grants in discussion with Professors Joy Lawn and Mark Jit.

#### **EDUCATION**

1. To deliver high quality, research-informed teaching and assessment in relation to your specific subject and within the broader area covered by your department/disciplinary field,;
2. To contribute to the improvement of the quality of the School's education, by participating in the development of new and updated learning and, teaching materials or approaches, and/or improving assessment practices, and/or improving aspects of the student experience;
3. To support educational leadership and management by active participation in selected aspects of the curriculum, as appropriate, and by collaborating with professional services staff, centrally and in the Faculty, in carrying out relevant administrative processes;

---

<sup>1</sup> Good research funders are: Research Councils; Government Departments; NIHR; National and overseas charities recognised by HEFCE for QR; Overseas research councils or equivalent including NIH; EU; other agencies (eg NGOs, commercial companies) supporting commissioned research that is consistent with School's mission and meets School's cost recovery targets

## INTERNAL CONTRIBUTION

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty or School, including Committee membership;
2. To participate in own PDR and undertake those of others;
3. To undertake other duties as may be required by his/her line manager.

## EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTION

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by contributing to the external academic community;
2. To promote knowledge translation and enterprise by participating in networks and activities that disseminate research-based knowledge beyond academia;
3. To provide reports and other updates to inform funders and other stakeholders about the progress of work.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

1. To keep up-to-date with the latest research/thinking in your academic field and with changes to pedagogic practice within the School and more generally;
2. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by the School appropriate to the role;
3. To support and mentor junior researchers;
4. To identify opportunities for funding and lead grant proposals related to the economics of vaccination and newborn health.

## GENERAL

All academic staff are free within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, to enable the School to engage in research and promote learning to the highest possible standards.

All staff at LSHTM are also expected to:

1. Act at all times in the School's best interests;
2. Treat School staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;
3. Comply fully with School policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role including when acting as Principal Investigator, accepting academic, managerial, financing and ethical responsibility for a project;
4. Uphold and support the School's values (as set out in the School Strategy document);
5. Act as ambassadors for the School when hosting visitors or attending external events;

*The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the role holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the role.*

*Role descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are an accurate representation of the role.*

[JAN 2017]

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed by the post holder to be able to perform the job effectively.

Applicants will be shortlisted solely on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Doctoral degree in a quantitative science/social science, such as health economics, statistics or epidemiology.
2. Excellent publication record in high-impact journals or alternative impactful communication.
3. Substantial experience working independently and within a team as a health economist and/or epidemiologist.
4. Evidence of communicating findings for both academic and policy audiences.
5. Good organizational and interpersonal skills including a proven ability to work both independently and as part of a team to meet project deadlines.
6. Demonstrated experience in managing research projects
7. Understanding of epidemiology, and preferably regarding perinatal epidemiology
8. Excellent research team management skills involving supporting colleagues in the team and ideally also in the field.

### DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience in designing field studies to collect economic and/or epidemiological data.
2. Experience in designing and implementing economic evaluations such as cost-effectiveness analyses, ideally of infectious disease and/or maternal and child health interventions.
3. Experience in managing and analyzing large data sets.
4. Experience in organizing and coordinating teams, including providing training and day-to-day supervision.
5. Experience in leading and/or contributing to research grant applications.
6. Experience working on research relevant to low and/or middle income countries.
7. Knowledge of maternal immunization and/or Group B Streptococcus infection.

## **SALARY AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT**

The post is funded to start immediately until 29 September 2020. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 7 scale in the range £44,978-£51,490 per annum (inclusive of London Weighting). The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year, pro rata for part time staff. In addition there are discretionary "Director's Days". Membership of the USS Pension Scheme is available.

This is a full-time role based in London, UK, although occasional travel to Geneva and Seattle, as well as to field study sites based in Africa and Asia, may potentially be needed.

Applications should be made on-line via our website at <http://jobs.lshtm.ac.uk>. Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if shortlisted. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10pm of the closing date. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to [jobs@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@lshtm.ac.uk). Please quote reference EPH-IDE-2018-09.

The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV" will not be considered acceptable. Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

## **ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION STATEMENT**

The School will comply with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006, which requires all employees to provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in this country prior to commencing employment. Candidates will be required to bring their passport (and visa if applicable) to interview so that it can be copied and verified.

Applications from candidates who require sponsorship to work in the UK will be considered alongside other applications. Applicants who do not currently have the right to work in the UK will have to satisfy UK Visas & Immigration regulations before they can be appointed.

Further information about Certificate of Sponsorship and eligibility to work in the UK, can be found at: [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points).

Date compiled: March 2017

## Academic Expectations: Assistant Professor

Examples of expected types of activities are listed; the selection of activities will vary from year to year and not all activities in each category would necessarily be done in any one year. The statement in each shaded heading summarises the general expectations for contributions in each category.

<b><i>Knowledge generation: Independent researcher with excellent contributions, supporting less experienced researchers and with growing leadership skills</i></b>
<b><i>Research and scholarship</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Undertaking research individually and as part of a team</li><li>• Applying for external grants and/or fellowships primarily from 'good'<sup>2</sup> research funders; contributing to work packages or elements within a large proposal</li><li>• Contributing to financial sustainability of research group including exploring opportunities for industry funding for laboratory research</li><li>• Contributing as lead and co-author in peer-reviewed outputs, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of output; significant contributions to at least four outputs within the most recent 3 years which are at least internationally excellent<sup>3</sup></li><li>• Engaging in other research dissemination including competitively selected oral and poster presentations at leading conferences, invited seminars and talks, and social media contributions such as twitter, blogs, webinars</li></ul> <b><i>Doctoral degree supervision</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contributing to doctoral degree supervision<sup>4</sup> of at least one student, working within supervision team(s), supporting timely completions and peer-reviewed outputs</li><li>• Contributing to summative assessment processes (e.g. upgrade assessments, pre- and post-viva support for students)</li></ul> <b><i>Research management, leadership and support</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Management of entire research process or significant parts of it, including line and team management, grants management, management of research partner relationships</li><li>• Supporting career development of research team members (eg informal mentoring, reviewing draft papers, advising on specific issues e.g. statistical issues, methodology)</li></ul> <b><i>Professional development referenced to RDF</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Courses and other development activities, including mid-level management and leadership development</li></ul>
<b><i>Education: Undertaking teaching and assessment, and developing as a research-informed educator within higher education</i></b>
<b><i>Teaching and assessment</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research-informed teaching, supervision and assessment</li><li>• Contributions to personal tutoring and/or development of less experienced educators (e.g. as peer-observer for PGCILT; as mentor; through leading staff development activities)</li><li>• Participation in programme committees and/or exam boards</li></ul> <b><i>Educational development and innovation</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contributions to research-informed educational developments and innovations</li><li>• Activities aimed at improving some aspect(s) of the student experience, or quality of education programme(s).</li></ul> <b><i>Education leadership and management</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leadership and/or management of selected aspects of the curriculum (e.g. as module organiser/deputy, or responsibility for another aspect of the student experience)</li></ul>

<sup>2</sup> Good research funders are: Research Councils; Government Departments; NIHR; National and overseas charities recognised by HEFCE for QR; Overseas research councils or equivalent including NIH; EU; other agencies (eg NGOs, commercial companies) supporting commissioned research that is consistent with School's mission and meets School's cost recovery targets

<sup>3</sup> i.e. of a quality that would be rated highly in assessments of research quality such as those done by UK government, and in peer review processes used by funders

<sup>4</sup> Students registered external to the School can be included (subject to agreement of DDDC/FDDD) where these fulfil capacity-building aims, support important research collaborations, or are a result of a recent move to the School.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting others to provide an excellent student experience and solve significant problems</li> <li>Contributions to Education Task &amp; Finish Group or similar</li> </ul> <p><i>Professional development referenced to UKPSF</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities which lead to PGCILT or equivalent and Fellow of HEA or equivalent; thereafter continuing professional development.</li> </ul> <p>Activities that support professional development as an educator (e.g. training/educational studies, work-shadowing, use of feedback from students/colleagues)</p>
<p><b><i>Internal contribution: Contributions to School functioning and development</i></b></p> <p><i>Internal citizenship</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement in any one year of at least one of: Senate or Senate subcommittee, Ethics Committees, Faculty and Departmental committees; Department, Faculty, School, Centre events or special interest groups; support to external collaborations/partnerships (beyond own research or education role); involvement in mentoring scheme</li> </ul> <p><i>School leadership and management roles</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not expected</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>External contribution: Contribution beyond the School</i></b></p> <p><i>External citizenship</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership of society/conference committees</li> <li>Journal, book and/or grant reviews</li> <li>Invited presentations</li> </ul> <p><i>Knowledge translation and enterprise: options include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploiting research-based knowledge beyond academia, eg through IP exploitation, consultancies</li> <li>Participation in and development of external networks for the School's benefit, such as identifying sources of funding, contributing to student recruitment, securing student placements, marketing the institution, facilitating outreach work, or building relationships for future activities</li> <li>Collecting evidence of research impact for impact case studies</li> <li>Supporting public engagement including MOOCs/OERs or other educational outreach</li> </ul>