

# RESEARCH FELLOW



<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Research Fellow in Epidemiology</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
<b>Faculty:</b>	Epidemiology and Population Health
<b>Location:</b>	Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire
<b>FTE:</b>	1.0
<b>Grade:</b>	Grade 6
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Head of Department through co-PI Dr Jackie Cook (line manager)
<b>Job Summary:</b>	<p>The post holder will support the delivery of a cluster randomized controlled Trial (RCT) on vector control interventions involving the most promising new generation of long-lasting insecticidal net. The RCT aims to produce evidence on the efficacy of two type of dual active-ingredient LLIN's compared to standard LLIN's against malaria infection and transmission by resistant mosquito populations. This is an exciting opportunity to be part of high-profile research that will help define future malaria control policy of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and African member states.</p> <p>The post holder will support all epidemiological components of the project and should therefore be organized, diligent and able to work under pressure. The candidate will work within a larger multi-disciplinary team so excellent communication and interpersonal skills will be essential as well a strong team spirit.</p>

## General Information

### The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing 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.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements in contribution to improving health worldwide. We believe that when people feel respected and included, they can be more creative, successful, and happier at work. While we have more work to do, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace, a community that everyone feels a part of, which is safe, respectful, supportive and enables all to reach their full potential.

### History

Founded in 1899 at the London Docks, LSHTM is now based in Bloomsbury, where it has two main sites at Keppel Street and Tavistock Place, and additional sites in The Gambia and Uganda. Today, our staff, students and alumni work in government, academia, international agencies and health services across the world.

## **Research**

Research income has grown to more than £180 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.

Our diverse research talents, skills and experience underpin our position as a leader in public and global health. These range from the molecular to the global, the theoretical to the applied, the analytical to the political. Our staff are conducting research in more than 100 countries.

## **Staff community**

We have 3,300 staff based all around the world with core hubs in London and at the MRC Units in The Gambia and Uganda, which joined LSHTM in February 2018. Our outstanding, diverse and committed staff make an impact where it is most needed - deploying research in real time in response to crises, developing innovative programmes for major health threats, or training the next generations of public and global health leaders and researchers.

## **Partnerships**

Working in partnership is central to achieving our mission. Our strategic collaborations in the UK and across high-, middle- and low-income countries deliver health and socioeconomic benefits across the world, especially in the most disadvantaged communities.

LSHTM is also a member of the M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centers, Universities and National Academies, the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, and the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.

## **Education**

We deliver research-led educational programmes to future health leaders, managers and researchers across the world. We have more than 1,200 face-to-face Master's and Doctoral students, 3,000 studying by distance learning, and 1,000 each year on short courses and continuous professional development. Our free online courses are studied by more than 270,000 participants globally.

## **Excellence in research and education**

We perform strongly in various global university league tables. In the Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2020 we placed 3rd in public health (1st in the UK). In the 2020 CWTS Leiden Ranking LSHTM is ranked the UK's top university for the proportion of academic research with women listed as authors, and third in Europe for publishing open access research.

In the US News Best Global Universities Ranking 2021, we ranked 3rd in the world for public, environmental & occupational health, 4th in the world for infectious diseases, 11th in the world for social sciences & public health, and 12th best University in the UK overall. We ranked 27th for medicine in the 2019 QS World University Rankings.

In 2017, the inaugural Center for World University Rankings by Subject placed LSHTM first in the world for tropical medicine research, second for parasitology and seventh for infectious diseases, public, environment and occupational health, and social sciences and biomedical.

LSHTM was named University of the Year 2016 by Times Higher Education and awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education in 2017 in recognition of our response to the 2014 Ebola epidemic in West Africa. LSHTM does not appear in the

Times Higher Education World University Rankings as universities are excluded if they do not teach undergraduates.

We seek to foster and sustain a creative and supportive working environment based upon an ethos of respect and rigorous scientific enquiry. We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equality as an essential element in contribution to improving health worldwide.

LSHTM is one of around 20 specialist institutions that receive institution specific funding from the Office for Students (OfS). This funding recognises the additional costs that LSHTM incurs because of its unique range of teaching, specialist facilities, and the scale of its contributions to national and international agencies.

## Faculty Information

**The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH)** houses a large group 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 Elizabeth Allen.

### **Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (IDE)**

The Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology conducts research on the epidemiology and control of infectious diseases of public health importance. Work is carried out in low-, middle- and high-income countries, including the United Kingdom, in close collaboration with partners in each country. The Department has groups working on maternal, neonatal and child health; international statistics and epidemiology; vaccines, outbreaks and humanitarian crises; and modelling. Research methods include ecological studies of variations in disease frequency in different populations, observational case-control and cohort studies to define risk factors for disease, randomized controlled trials to evaluate the effectiveness of individual- and community-level interventions, and mathematical models to project the impact of public health interventions.

The Department Head is Professor Mark Jit.

### **THE MRC INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS & EPIDEMIOLOGY GROUP**

The MRC International Statistics & Epidemiology Group (ISEG; Director: Professor Helen Weiss), established in 1972, is a group of approximately 35 statisticians and epidemiologists based in the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at LSHTM and at research centres in Africa. The group is funded by an MRC Programme Grant (to October 2023), and has an extensive research portfolio of epidemiological research in resource-poor settings covering a range of diseases of major public health importance (including HIV, TB, malaria, emerging and neglected diseases and mental health). We have an extensive network of collaborators, including the MRC/LSHTM Units in Uganda and The Gambia, the Aurum Institute for Health Research (Johannesburg, South Africa), the Mwanza Intervention Trials Unit (Mwanza, Tanzania), and the Wellcome Trust Bloomsbury Centre for Global Health (London UK).

Further details are available on our website: <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres->

[projects-groups/mrc-international-statistics-and-epidemiology-group](#)

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

### **Project information**

Insecticide resistance in malaria vectors across Africa is the most serious problem facing malaria control progress. Policy has recently shifted away from pyrethroid-only long lasting insecticidal nets to next generation LLIN combining either two types of insecticide or a pyrethroid plus synergist. Several types of bi-treated net incorporating novel types of insecticide (and evaluated in small scale entomological trials by LSHTM in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) demonstrate great potential to combat the threat of insecticide resistance and maintain control of malaria transmitted by pyrethroid resistant mosquitoes in Africa. This study is a cluster randomised controlled trial (CRT) which compares the new vector control interventions involving the most promising new generation LLIN to prevent malaria in areas where vector mosquitoes are resistant to pyrethroids. The project will take place in Cote d'Ivoire and aims to produce evidence on the relative effectiveness of new LLIN's against malaria infection (prevalence and incidence) and transmission by resistant mosquito populations to help define future malaria control policy of the WHO and African member states.

The project is a collaboration between the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and Institut Pierre Richet (IPR). The multi-disciplinary trial is funded by The Global Fund.

We are seeking to recruit a Research Fellow to act as Trial Manager and to support, in close collaboration with the partner Institution IPR, the epidemiological components of the trial. The trial has several main epidemiological objectives:

1. Estimate malaria case incidence in children aged 6 months to 10 years in all study clusters through regular cohorts visits
2. Estimate malaria infection prevalence within all study clusters through repeated cross-sectional surveys

The Research Fellow will have a varied role incorporating data collection, data management and analysis and therefore will need to be organized, diligent and able to work under pressure. The Research Fellow will work within a larger multi-disciplinary team so excellent communication and interpersonal skills will be essential, as well a strong team spirit.

## **Job Description**

### **Main Activities and Responsibilities**

### **Knowledge Generation**

1. To undertake high quality research & scholarship, including contributing to drafting major grant proposals and/or leading on drafting small grant proposals, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To contribute to peer-reviewed publications and other outputs, including as lead author;

3. To make a contribution to doctoral student supervision, as appropriate to qualifications and experience;
4. To manage small grants or elements of larger grants, ensuring compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy and other relevant School policies.
5. To coordinate and supervise routine epidemiological data collection in all study sites;
6. To lead the development of sub- protocols, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and data collection tools
7. To ensure that all data and samples are collected and stored in a safe and secure manner;
8. To synthesise data, undertake preliminary analysis and to communicate findings to a wide variety of audiences, including government officials, academics and funders;
9. To undertake high quality research & scholarship;
10. To lead planning and implementation of the trial including contribution to the design of the RCT, protocol amendment, development of SOP, data management and analysis plan, report writing
11. To coordinate the ethics application with other research team members.
12. To supervise the trial research activities
13. To coordinate the activities of other team members, including entomology, data management, and field staff

## Education

1. To contribute to the delivery of high quality, inclusive, research-informed teaching and assessment in relation to your specific subject and within the broader area covered by your department and 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.
3. To participate in some aspects of the Partner Institution (IPR) Education Programme or educational outreach activities if required;

## Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty, MRC Unit or the School;
2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in the School's PDR process.
4. To make a contribution to scientific meetings within IPR and LSHTM

## External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by contributing to learned society/conference events, journal and grant reviews etc;
2. To support supervision and mentorship of junior scientists with training and teaching

## Professional Development and 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. Where the length and nature of the position permits, to apply for and, if accepted, undertake a doctoral degree (if not already acquired);
3. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by the School appropriate to the role.

## 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);
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.*

## 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. A postgraduate degree, ideally a doctoral degree, in a relevant topic.
2. Substantial relevant experience in control of vector borne diseases in a developing country (ideally in an African setting)
3. Contributions to written output, preferably peer-reviewed, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of outputs.
4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and proven ability to meet research deadlines.
5. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
6. Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management.
7. Project management experience, including supervision of staff
8. Evidence of running research projects independently and generating research ideas
9. Prior experience with epidemiological data collection and management, including use of programmes such as Open Data Kit
10. Data analysis skills, including use of programmes such as Stata or R
11. Ability to work with limited supervision
12. Willing to be based in Cote d'Ivoire
13. Excellent communication skills in English language (oral and written)
14. Excellent communication skills in French language (oral and written)

### Desirable Criteria

1. Some experience of contributing to research grant applications.
2. Some experience of teaching and assessment.
3. Some experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff.
4. Experience of team management
5. Previous clinical experience
6. Previous work or research experience with malaria
7. Experience with entomological data collection and/or analysis

## **Salary and Conditions of Appointment**

The post is funded at 1 FTE until 31 December 2024 and available to start immediately. The salary will be on the Academic Grade 6 scale in the range of £41,829 to £47,503 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 to this there are discretionary "Wellbeing Days". Membership of the Pension Scheme is available.

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 appointed. 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).

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**

This post is based overseas and candidates will be required to email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to send a notarised copy of their passport prior to their start date.

Applicants will be required to have the right to work in the country in which the post is based (or be eligible to apply for a suitable work visa).

Date amended: Sept 2022

## Academic Expectations: Research Fellow

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. Research Fellows employed on research projects will be expected to focus on Knowledge Generation, in accordance with their job description, but some activity in other areas is required and will support career progression. Research Fellows predominantly employed to support Education will be expected to focus on Education, again as reflected in their job description.

### ***Knowledge generation: Independent contributions and a clear trajectory towards excellence in knowledge generation***

#### *Research and scholarship*

- Undertaking research
- Working with PIs to draft grant proposals and/or leading writing of small grants, work packages or sections of larger proposals or personal fellowship applications
- Contributing to peer-reviewed and other research outputs, including as first author, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types of output
- Poster/oral presentations at relevant conferences, translation of research findings into educational materials
- Social media contributions such as twitter, blogs, web-based media or webinars

#### *Reflective practice and critical enquiry (RPaCE)*

- Contributing to RPaCE activities
- Designing evaluation studies
- Disseminating learning and experiences through presentations, blogs etc
- Contributing to enhancing teaching practice of others: e.g. mentoring, teaching observation and feedback

#### *Doctoral degree supervision*

- For RFs with Doctorate, some contribution to doctoral degree supervision is encouraged (e.g. specialist skills training; ad hoc advice; advisory committees). RFs without a Doctorate may also advise in areas of specialist knowledge

#### *Research management, leadership and support*

- Effective management of own time and activities
- Management of small research grants or elements of larger grants, including management of data collection and relationships with research collaborators, supporting/mentoring colleagues, support to grants management

#### *Professional development*

- Courses and other professional development activities, referenced to RDF
- Where the length, nature and funding source of the position permit, to apply for and, if accepted, undertake a doctoral degree (if not already acquired)

<b>Education: Basic competence in teaching and assessment</b>
<p><i>Teaching and assessment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research-informed teaching and assessment contributions (e.g. contributions to modules, MSc project supervision)</li> </ul> <p><i>Educational development and innovation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributing to the development of new educational materials, learning opportunities or assessments approaches</li> </ul> <p><i>Education leadership and management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None expected</li> </ul> <p><i>Professional development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in professional development activities referenced to UKPSF (e.g. HEA, PGCILT, preparation for doctoral degree supervision, shadowing more experienced colleagues); acquiring Associate Fellow HEA</li> </ul>
<b>Internal contribution: Contributions to School functioning and development</b>
<p><i>Internal citizenship including contributing to supportive academic environment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributing to at least one Department, Faculty, School, or Centre event or special interest group in any one year, including EDI activities;</li> <li>• Taking on role as Digital Champion or Decolonising the Curriculum facilitator; Supporting external School collaborations/partnerships (beyond own research or education role) where relevant</li> <li>• Support to others' success (eg careers advice to students)</li> </ul> <p><i>School leadership and management roles</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None expected</li> </ul>
<b>External contribution: Contribution beyond the School</b>
<p><i>External citizenship</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributing to learned society/conference events, journal and grant reviews etc.</li> </ul> <p><i>Knowledge translation and enterprise: not expected but options include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting evidence of research impact for impact case studies (e.g. policy records, correspondence with policy makers, media highlights)</li> <li>• Engaging with policy/practice/industry/NGO communities and the general public</li> <li>• Supporting MOOCs/OERs or other (e.g. educational) outreach</li> </ul>