

# RESEARCH ASSISTANT



<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Research Assistant</b>
<b>Department:</b>	Department of Population Health (DPH)
<b>Faculty:</b>	Epidemiology and Population Health (EPH)
<b>Location:</b>	Goa, India
<b>FTE:</b>	1.0
<b>Grade:</b>	G5
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Head of Department through Principal Investigator (PI)
<b>Job Summary:</b>	<p>Applications are invited for a Research Assistant position in Global Mental Health joining a team working at the interface between epidemiology, intervention development and testing, and intervention science in low resource settings. The post will be based in the Centre for Global Mental Health, which is part of the Department of Population Health.</p> <p>While this position is for a Research Assistant at LSHTM, the postholder will be based in India and responsible to Associate Professor Nadkarni.</p> <p>The successful applicant will have a good quantitative and qualitative research background with experience of intervention development and testing in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Applicants should also have experience of qualitative and quantitative data analysis from mental health research programs. This is a great opportunity for those seeking to pursue doctoral research on complex behavioural interventions development and testing in low resource settings.</p>

## General Information

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.

To find out more please visit our [Introducing LSHTM page](#).

## Our Values

Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future -

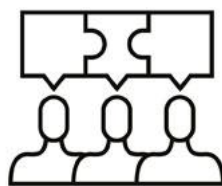
demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**Act with  
integrity**



**Embrace  
difference**



**Work  
together**



**Create  
impact**

## Faculty Information

**The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH)** houses a large group of epidemiologists, demographers, statisticians and nutritionists working on major issues of importance to public health provision in the UK and globally. EPH employs approximately 560 people in five research departments.

- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics
- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health
- Department of Medical Statistics, which includes the Clinical Trials Unit
- Department of Non-communicable Disease Epidemiology
- Department of Population Health

The Faculty has a postgraduate teaching programme including eleven intensive MSc courses: Epidemiology, Demography and Health, Medical Statistics, Health Data Science, Public Health for Development (jointly with Faculties of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and Public Health & Policy), Nutrition for Global Health, Global Mental Health (jointly with Kings College London, Institute of Psychiatry), Reproductive & Sexual Health Research, Sexual & Reproductive Health Policy and Practice (online), Veterinary Epidemiology (run jointly with the Royal Veterinary College) and Climate Change and Planetary Health. There are also three distance Learning MSc courses: 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.

## The Department

The Department of Population Health aims to bring important benefits to global population health and health equity by generating, evaluating and disseminating effective interventions, treatments and policies. It is a centre of excellence in the determinants and consequences of population change. Our research involves epidemiology, drug trials, complex intervention development and trials, demography, research on the mechanisms of disease, treatments and interventions, qualitative research and systematic reviews of evidence. We work on some of the largest public health issues in the world including: climate change and planetary health, COVID-19, demography, emergency care, global mental health, maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), nutrition, non-communicable disease and sexual and reproductive health (SRH). The Department of Population health has strong links with the Malawi Epidemiology and Intervention Research Unit (MEIRU), the MRC unit the Gambia, international agencies and a large network of overseas research collaborators.

The Head of Department is Professor Suneetha Kadiyala.

## Project Description

The overarching goal of the programme is to develop a framework to guide the translation of research evidence in LMICs informed by evidence generated through a series of studies aimed at (a) the implementation and scaling up of care for AUD, and (b) contextually-relevant health systems strengthening processes to aid implementation in low resource settings. We will leverage the proposed studies as exemplars to develop a research translation framework and toolkit suitable for use in low resource settings. The key studies will include the following: Study 1 (IMPRESS)- hybrid implementation cluster RCT (CRT) which will compare two task-sharing models for delivering a psychological intervention by non-specialist health workers, i.e. as a stand-alone intervention in public-

sector primary care clinics (“Facility-only Model”) versus being integrated with an evidence-based community intervention (“Community Model”) delivered by community based agents aimed at increasing demand for care and improving treatment adherence and effectiveness. Study 2 (ICAP)- single-blind, effectiveness-implementation hybrid CRT with two arms-‘Individual only arm’ will receive Counselling for Alcohol Problems (CAP) for the drinker and the ‘family arm’ will receive CAP for the drinker and Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT).

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

## **Job Description**

### **Main Activities and Responsibilities**

### **Knowledge Generation**

1. To undertake high quality research as directed by your line manager, including contributing to drafting grant proposals and peer-reviewed and other outputs, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To support the administration of projects linked to your employment, helping ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant LSHTM policies;
3. To support the PI and the in-country partners in delivering the academic outputs of the research programme.
4. To directly support and engage the leads across different work streams within the IMPRESS and ICAP trials.
5. To coordinate with overseas partners and funders to ensure outputs are delivered as outlined in the research proposals.
6. To identify capacity issues with partners around complex intervention testing and to support the creation of capacity building elements around key gaps.
7. To monitor data collection, support synthesis and analyses of data, and contribute to academic outputs.
8. To co-ordinate external committees around core trial functions from ethics to data safety and management.

### **Education**

1. To participate in some aspects of LSHTM’s Education Programme or educational outreach activities;

### **Internal Contribution**

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty, MRC Unit or LSHTM;

2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in LSHTM's PDR process;
4. To actively contribute to the activities of the Centre for Global Mental Health.

## External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by supporting the external academic and practice communities;
2. To support institutions in India through capacity strengthening activities and sharing scientific expertise and knowledge to inform policies and programmes; and
3. Engage actively in wider scientific networks globally and in India.

## 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 LSHTM and more generally;
2. For lab-based disciplines: 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 LSHTM as appropriate to the role;
4. To register for a PhD degree at the School.

## 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 LSHTM 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 LSHTM's best interests;
2. Treat staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;
3. Comply fully with LSHTM policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role;
4. Uphold and support LSHTM's values (as set out in the LSHTM Strategy);
5. Act as ambassadors for LSHTM when hosting visitors or attending external events;

## Academic Expectations

All academic roles have a statement of academic expectations attached to each level. Please ensure that these have been read and understood. For further information please refer to the [Academic Expectations page](#).

*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 relevant first degree in the field of Global Mental Health.
2. Relevant experience in developing and testing complex interventions for mental health and related conditions, preferably in India.
3. Relevant analytical skills in Global Mental Health.
4. Contribution to written outputs with at least two peer-reviewed publications (published or accepted for publication) with at least one as lead author.
5. Experience of contributing to grant writing.
6. Experience of systematic review methods.
7. Evidence of good organisational skills, including effective time management.
8. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively, as part of a research team.
9. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
10. Self-motivated, with the ability to work independently and proactively, taking the initiative to solve difficulties and issues whilst delivering a large output of work and responding flexibly to changing situations.
11. Effective management of own time and activities.
12. Experience of providing administrative/management support to multi-partner and international programmes.

### Desirable Criteria

13. Some experience of teaching
14. Some experience of leading on grant writing.
15. Experience of working on randomised controlled trials in LMICs.
16. Experience working in a multi-disciplinary research settings.
17. Experience of managing research field teams.

## Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term for 36 months and full-time, 35 hours per week, 1.0 FTE. The post is funded by the NIHR Professorship grant and is available from 01 December 2023. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 5 scale in the range £38,282 - £43,947 per annum pro rata (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.

LSHTM has a Hybrid Working Framework, which alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly (if the role allows), promoting a greater wellbeing and work/life balance.

## Application Process

Applications should be made on-line via our [jobs website](#). 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. We regret that late applications cannot be accepted. 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", "Yes" or "No" will not be considered acceptable and will not be scored.

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 2023