ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

LONDON SCHOOL of HYGIENE &TROPICAL MEDICINE

Job Title:	**Assistant Professor**
Department:	Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics (IDE-D)
Faculty:	Epidemiology & Population Health
Location:	Keppel Street, London
FTE:	1.0
Grade:	G7
Accountable to:	Rosalind Eggo/Michael Marks
Job Summary:	We are looking for an enthusiastic and productive team member, with considerable experience in analysis of electronic health records, an interest in learning new skills and in working with colleagues with a range of epidemiological backgrounds to advance the research agenda on health inequalities in England. The post-holder will join a supportive team using OpenSAFELY for analysis of linked EHR data. This post is co-funded by two large projects investigating socio-economic and ethnic inequalities in infectious disease burden in England (NIHR and UKRI-funded). The projects aim to better understand how health inequalities are generated and sustained, with a particular focus on the role of infections, especially respiratory infections. The importance of social contact behaviour, primary care use and access, and interventions such as vaccination will be a major focus. The post-holder will be directly responsible for conducting epidemiological analysis in OpenSAFELY, designing and implementing app-based surveys to collect data from staff and patients on their experiences of infections, analysis of these surveys and broader EHR data to detect biases in recruitment and reporting, and supervising a research fellow working on predicting burden of infections. Within the broader workplan there is considerable scope for self-generated projects within the overall remit. The post-holder will work directly with Prof Michael Marks (-interim PI) and Dr Rosalind Eggo (PI), and with a team of epidemiologists, modellers, statisticians and data scientists at LSHTM, QMUL, Bristol and Oxford Universities. There will be excellent opportunities for publication, for collaboration and for participation in future grant applications and outputs crucial to public health decisions.

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

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.

Staff and students are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements to improve 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.

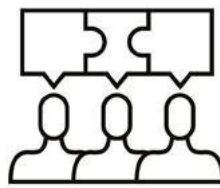To find out more please visit our Introducing LSHTM page.

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.

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 five research departments.

- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Dynamics
- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and International Health
- 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 and 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 Information

Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics (IDED)

The Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics 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 three groups:

- The infectious disease modelling group, which is linked to the Centre for Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases (CMMID).
- The UK Public Health Rapid Support Team, a specialist multidisciplinary team across LSHTM and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) that offers low and middle income countries around the world support to prepare for and respond to disease outbreaks, through field collaboration, research and capacity-strengthening activities.
- The Vaccine Confidence Project, which conducts global research, investigating the roots, trends over time and impacts of vaccine confidence at regional, national and sub-national levels.

The Department works closely with the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health.

The Department Head is Professor Mark Jit.

Relevant Centres at LSHTM

The **Centre for the Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases (CMMID)** is a multidisciplinary grouping of epidemiologists, mathematicians, economists, statisticians and clinicians from across all three faculties of the LSHTM. Research focuses on understanding and predicting the epidemiology of infectious diseases so that more effective control programmes can be devised. Researchers are developing and applying mathematical models to a range of infections including HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, HPV, tuberculosis, hepatitis C, influenza, rotavirus, measles, varicella, pneumococcal disease, Hib, malaria and sleeping sickness. More recently, CMMID has been one of the leading groups involved in responding to modelling needs in the UK and globally around the COVID-19 pandemic. More fundamental research includes developing methods to measure underlying contact patterns, sampling hard-to-reach populations (such as drug users), efficiently fitting complex mathematical models to data, and the integration of epidemiological models with economic analyses. CMMID is actively engaged in developing links with other modelling groups; members of the CMMID include mathematical modellers working at the UK Health Security Agency and the Royal Veterinary College.

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 deliver high quality research & scholarship in your field of study, individually and in collaboration with others, by applying for external grants/fellowships from good[1] research funders, publishing peer-reviewed outputs as lead and co-author; and evaluating teaching practice

2. To contribute to doctoral 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 LSHTM policies

4. To support the development of early-career researchers

5. To design, implement and analyse EHR studies using the OpenSAFELY research platform.

6. To design and implement surveys to collect data from healthcare staff and patients, including completing and adhering to ethics and data governance standards.

7. To work with collaborators including statisticians, data scientists, modellers, and epidemiologists at LSHTM and partner institutions.

Education

1. To deliver high quality, inclusive, 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 and inclusivity of LSHTM'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.

Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty or MRC Unit or LSHTM, including Committee membership

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[1] 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 LSHTM's mission and meets LSHTM's cost recovery targets

2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour

3. To participate in own PDR and undertake those of others;

4. To contribute to the activities of LSHTM's Electronic Health Records Research Group and/or Centre for Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases.

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 participate in patient and public involvement activities (which may occur out of usual working hours).

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. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by LSHTM appropriate to the role;

3. To develop strategies for effective line management and support of junior researchers.

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 including when acting as Principal Investigator, accepting academic, managerial, financing and ethical responsibility for a project

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.

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 doctoral degree in a relevant topic

2. Expertise in electronic health records analysis, with evidence of taking a leading role in design of research studies.

3. Contributions 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 5 years which are at least internationally excellent[2]

4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and to meet research deadlines

5. An understanding of the strategies for improving equity and inclusion in research and or learning and teaching

6. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing

7. Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management

Desirable criteria:

1. Experience of generating research income such as fellowships, and/or small project grants, and/or supporting grant applications of others

2. Some experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff

3. Some experience of undertaking teaching and assessment

4. Demonstrable evidence of promoting inclusion in research and or learning and teaching

5. A teaching qualification

6. Experience of data collection and ethics procedures

7. Experience in conducting quantitative analysis of infectious disease data or vaccination

8. Experience in git/github for code management

9. Experience and interest in health inequalities research

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[2] 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

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Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term until 30 April 2027 and full-time, 1.0 FTE. The post is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research and the Medical Research Council and is available from 01 August 2024. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 7 in the range £51,299 - £58,723 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.

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

LSHTM will comply with current UKVI legislation, 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 email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to bring the original documents in to be copied and verified before their start date.

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 Sponsorship and eligibility to work in the UK, can be found on the government immigration rules page.

Date amended: July 2024