



Nuffield Department of Population Health

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	Researcher in Health Economics
Division	Medical Sciences Division
Department	Nuffield Department of Population Health
Location	Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford
Grade and salary	Grade 8: £40,792 - £48,677 per annum
Hours	Full time Part time (≥50% FTE) could be considered
Contract type	Fixed-term (2 years with possibility for renewal)
Reporting to	Dr Jose Leal, Prof Philip Clarke
Vacancy reference	140102

Introduction

The Health Economics Research Centre (HERC)

HERC is a thriving group of health economists and analysts, with a varied and innovative research programme. HERC at present consists of over 20 health economists/scientists, six DPhil students and 3 administrators, plus research associates and senior visiting fellows. HERC has a well-established reputation as a centre of excellence in health economics.

HERC staff are involved in a wide range of methodological and applied research projects, both national and international, that currently emphasize the methodology and application of economic evaluation to health interventions, disease modelling, outcome measurement and valuation, economic assessment of novel genomic technologies, health care decision making, and health systems evaluation.

Staff also undertake undergraduate and graduate supervision and teaching. For example, HERC contributes to the Oxford University MSc in Global Health Science, a one-year, full-time course, which aims to promote in-depth understanding of global health issues by study of a range of disciplines in biomedical and social sciences. Other teaching activities include the successful 'Applied Methods of Cost-effectiveness Analysis' course, which attracts an international enrolment and has been run in Oxford, Australia and Hong Kong. Further information on HERC is available from our website (<http://www.herc.ox.ac.uk>).

Nuffield Department of Population Health

The Nuffield Department of Population Health (NDPH) provides an excellent environment for multi-disciplinary research and teaching and in the 2014 REF (Research Excellence Framework) was ranked first for research in the area of public health, health services and primary care. NDPH has over 500 staff working in a number of world-renowned population health research groups, including the Clinical Trial Service Unit and Epidemiological Studies Unit (CTSU), the Cancer Epidemiology Unit (CEU), the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU) and other groups working on public health, health economics, ethics and health record linkage. It is also a key partner in the new Oxford University Big Data Institute.

The wide range of opportunities for research within the department includes access to very large data-sets from clinical trials, meta-analyses and epidemiological cohorts. These research programmes are well supported by scientific teams which include clinicians, epidemiologists, statisticians, analyst programmers and research coordinators, and by excellent computing and laboratory facilities.

In addition to its research activities, the Department is home to the [MSc in Global Health Science](#). Students also come to undertake research for [DPhil degrees](#). Teaching is provided for undergraduates reading for Medicine and for Public Health doctors in specialist training.

For more information please visit: www.ndph.ox.ac.uk

The Medical Sciences Division

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching, and the largest academic division in the University of Oxford.

World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk>

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Overview of the role

HERC is seeking to appoint a Senior Researcher in Health Economics (08S) in the area of health economics. We are looking for a strong candidate with the drive and determination to develop new and existing methodologies in decision modelling, econometrics and economic evaluation. The post will build on HERC's history of developing individual-level simulation models based on large cohort studies and randomized clinical trials. Researchers within HERC developed the UKPDS Outcomes Model, the most widely used health economic diabetes simulation model. In addition, HERC has been involved in the development of simulation models in a variety of other chronic diseases including cardiovascular, kidney and musculoskeletal diseases.

This is a unique opportunity to work with other health economists, clinicians, statisticians and other researchers at the University of Oxford and elsewhere in the UK. The person appointed will have the opportunity to develop methodological research which are aligned with the aims of HERC and NDPH as well as supervising junior researchers. The postholder will be based in HERC.

Responsibilities/duties

The person appointed would:

- Lead and plan the day to day running of research project/s, reporting on progress to the health economics lead/s and other project team members, and ensure the successful completion of the project/s;
- Supervise junior staff employed on the project/s;
- Develop and apply new research methodologies;
- Raise further research funding and write funding applications to develop the programmes of research in the longer term;
- Foster excellent working relationships with study collaborators in Oxford and represent the health economic component of the project at multi-disciplinary project meetings;
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone;
- Promote the programme of work nationally and internationally, and disseminate the work and research findings by means of peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations and leading seminars;
- Contribute to the wider academic activities of the Nuffield Department of Population Health (such as teaching, student mentoring or supervision) and participate in appropriate training and quality assurance processes for such roles.

Research project areas

The person appointed would be involved in a variety of health economic modelling related projects focusing on an analysis of large data sets and modelling of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. These include the analysis of

- RHAPSODY, an EU-funded project evaluating the impact of novel biomarkers for prediabetes and diabetes. The project also involves developing an integrated decision model capable of modelling progression from a prediabetes state to death.
- Several large long-term diabetes trials including a validation of the UKPDS Outcomes model on the 30 year follow-up data of the UKPDS, as well as using data from more recent diabetes cohorts.
- Heart Failure and Atrial Fibrillation datasets from the EuroObservational Research Programme (EORP) to determine the main drivers of costs and quality of life within and between European countries

Selection criteria

Essential

- A strong graduate and/or postgraduate qualification (a PhD/ DPhil or equivalent experience) in Health Economics, Economics, (Bio) Statistics, Epidemiology, or other quantitative discipline;
- Substantial track record of previous research experience in the area of health economics, health technology assessment, health outcomes or a related health care area.
- Evidence of the analysis of complex individual patient level datasets from randomised and non-randomised health studies;
- Demonstrated research experience and knowledge of a range of research methods suitable to inform the economic analysis of health interventions;
- Strong data analysis and programming skills in Stata, R or similar software packages, especially in statistical/econometric methods;
- An established reputation and peer review publication record.
- Ability to independently plan and manage substantive elements of a research project;
- Ability to work independently, effectively, and collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;

Desirable

- Demonstrable experience in designing and building cost-effectiveness decision models;
- Experience in dealing with missing data in the context of randomised and non-randomised studies;
- Expertise in performing systematic reviews and evidence synthesis;
- Interest in economic evaluation of health interventions

Subject to passing selection criteria, there may be an opportunity for candidates to study for an NDPH DPhil.

How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/research/>

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from [www.ox.ac.uk/about the university/jobs/support/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/). To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:

www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/.

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/.

From 1 October 2017, there is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.



Benefits of working at the University

University Club and sports facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a bar, café and sporting facilities, including a gym. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool.

See: www.club.ox.ac.uk and www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Information for international staff

The University offers support and advice to international staff, including a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents.

See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/.

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/

Childcare

The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details including how to apply and the costs, see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Family-friendly benefits

The University subscribes to My Family Care (www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/) and staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a 'speak to an expert' phone line and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work + Family space.

Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff for further details including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor.

Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/

Other benefits

Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits such as free visitor access to the University's colleges and the Botanic Gardens as well as a range of discounts.

See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits