Postdoctoral Position in the Computational Analysis of Food Purchasing Data

We invite applications for a 1-year (renewable for a second year) postdoctoral position at the intersection of informatics, population health, and marketing. The position will have a substantive focus on developing and applying novel computational methods for analyzing transactional food purchasing data to estimate health and economic outcomes. The position is hosted jointly by the Surveillance Lab in the McGill Clinical and Health Informatics Research Group within the Faculty of Medicine and the McGill Center for Health and Economics within the Desautels Faculty of Management. We offer an exciting opportunity to join a large-scale research project on how retailing strategies simultaneously influence public health and commercial outcomes through consumer shopping decisions.

Job Description

The post will suit candidates with relevant experience in statistical data analysis of very large datasets and an interest in applying this expertise to problems at the intersection of management and public health sciences. The main task is to develop statistical models using billions of retail transactional records to quantify the effect of food retailing strategies on the nutritional quality of shopping baskets and consequently public health for households and neighbourhood. The project is expected to generate high-impact research and to contribute to the fields of management, public health, and biomedical informatics. The position will be under the supervision of Professor David Buckeridge at McGill University.

Candidates are expected to contribute to the overall objectives of the research project by developing conceptual models, conducting data analysis, and writing academic articles. The position is research-oriented but may involve grant development.

Qualifications

Candidate must hold a PhD in a data-intensive discipline such as statistics, biomedical informatics, computer science or other relevant academic areas and have publication experience in high-ranking journals. Experience working with large databases and relevant programming languages (e.g., SQL, R, Python) is required. Knowledge and expertise in one or more of the following areas is also desirable: marketing, retailing, public health, nutrition.

Application Instructions

To apply please send the following documents to study.mchi@mcgill.ca

- CV
- Cover Letter
- Names of three references