Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tuberculosis Research
McGill University & McGill University Health Centre – Montreal, Canada
May 2016

TB Research at McGill

McGill University is Canada's leading research university, ranked as one of the top 25 universities in the world. The McGill International TB Centre is a large, active, diverse research group in tuberculosis, encompassing several disciplines, including epidemiology, clinical research, public health, genomics, diagnostics, molecular epidemiology, health economics, modeling, sociology and international health. Members of the research group have a strong track record of innovative biomedical, clinical, epidemiologic and social research. They also have a strong record of close inter-disciplinary collaborations, and of informing policy and guidelines – in Canada, the US, and globally through work with the Public Health Agency of Canada, the US CDC, and World Health Organization. The TB research group is funded by a number of sources e.g., Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Fonds de recherche – Québec–Santé (FRQS), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, World Health Organization, Centres for Disease Control (US) and other public and private agencies. More information about our TB research can be found at: McGill International TB Centre.

Ongoing and planned

This Postdoctoral fellowship will be funded by a newly awarded 7-year Foundation grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (PI Dr Dick Menzies). The work funded includes completion and analysis of a large scale randomized trial of LTBI therapy that enrolled close to 7,000 adults and children, a cluster randomized trial for LTBI program evaluation and strengthening that will begin in 2016, and a trial of optimal treatment of INH resistant TB planned for 2018-2020. In addition to these large scale multi-centre international trials, other planned projects include individual patient data meta-analyses of studies of treatment of MDR-TB, and INH-Resistant TB. Building on all these projects the post-doc fellow will undertake/supervise a series of economic, risk-benefit and modelling studies – to examine the impact of different diagnostic and treatment strategies on long term global TB trends as well as on Canadian TB trends. The group also organizes a one-week long course on TB Research Methods every year. The postdoctoral fellowship will focus on modeling, cost effectiveness and decision analyses, but it is expected the successful candidate will be involved in all aspects of this ambitious research program.

Fellowship

Applications are invited from recent PhD or MD graduates for a two year, full-time fellowship, starting any time after October 2016. The salary range is $45,000 - $60,000 per annum, depending on qualifications and research experience. Extended Health and Dental Insurance will be made available through the Post-Graduate Student’s Society of McGill University.
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Eligibility and Requirements

Applicants must have:

- Completed, within the past 5 years, an MD (or completed training in a relevant medical specialty) or a PhD degree with a background in epidemiology, clinical research, respiratory research, infectious diseases or public health. NOTE that McGill regulations restrict Post-Doc positions to individuals whose most recent degree (PhD or MD) or specialty certification was obtained within the last 5 years. Therefore persons whose last official degree or clinical specialty training was completed more than 5 years ago are not eligible for postdoctoral positions;
- An excellent academic record;
- Epidemiologic research experience, tuberculosis research an asset;
- A strong record of publications in peer reviewed journals (at least 3 first-authored publications in TB is desirable);
- Strong quantitative skills, and experience with statistical software such as SAS or STATA or others; Experience with decision analysis and infectious diseases modeling software (TreeAge, Berkeley Madonna) will be considered an asset.
- A research program development plan that would be highly competitive in provincial and national funding competitions for postdoctoral awards;
- Good verbal and communication skills. Fluency in English (verbal and written); fluency in French is desirable.

Responsibilities

The postdoctoral fellow will function as a junior investigator, participating fully in teaching, research and related scholarly activities and will be encouraged to apply for salary and research funding. Specifically, the fellow will work on several projects relating to TB modeling, cost-effectiveness and decision analyses. This may include systematic reviews, and in-country field research. The fellow will provide oversight at collaborating international sites, conduct data management and analysis, prepare manuscripts, assist in writing grant proposals, and help with supervision of junior trainees. Travel abroad will be required.

Important note: This is NOT a laboratory-based (bench science) fellowship. The focus is on epidemiologic and public health research, particularly using modeling and economic analyses methods. Applicants interested in basic science research will not be eligible for this fellowship.

Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit an application via email, consisting of a cover letter (including a statement of research interests and prior experience in TB research), Curriculum Vitae, contact information of 2 relevant referees, along with 3 sample TB publications to:

Dr. Dick Menzies
Professor of Medicine, and of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, McGill University,
2155 Guy St, Room 419, Montreal, QC, Canada, H3H 2R9
Email: Dick.Menzies@mcgill.ca

Please contact Dr. Menzies (via email) for further information. This position will be advertised until a suitable candidate is identified. Information on postdoctoral fellowship regulations, including information on healthcare and benefits, at McGill University is available at: http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdocs/