



Department of Surgery
Faculty of Health Sciences

50 Charlton Ave E.
Hamilton Ontario, Canada
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Division of Thoracic Surgery Research Group, Department Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, and the School of Nursing

Post-Doctoral Fellowship in an Epidemiological Study of the Impact of Health Services Regionalization on Outcomes in High Risk Cancer Surgery

Introduction

This fellowship is hosted in conjunction with the Department of Surgery and the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University. McMaster University is one of Canada's top ranked research-intensive universities and the Faculty of Health Sciences is a major contributor with more than \$100 million in research funding being overseen by health sciences investigators.

This one-year fellowship available to start immediately will be co-supervised by Dr. Christian Finley, Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of Thoracic Surgery and Dr. Noori Akhtar-Danesh, Associate Member of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Associate Professor in the School of Nursing.

Under the direction of Dr. Finley, a new research program is being developed to explore the impact of health services regionalization on outcomes and health system users in high-risk lung, esophageal, hepatobiliary-pancreatic and ovarian cancer surgery. As healthcare systems seek to increase efficiency through structural organizational changes, there has been less attention placed on evaluating the outcomes of these efforts. This project will have both a multi-provincial and a national scope and requires working with a multidisciplinary team to identify trends, summarize the current policies and research to date and translate these findings into recommendations. This position will be based at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton but will require meetings with Dr. Akhtar-Danesh, who will be directly supervising the successful fellow, at McMaster University on a regular basis.

The selected fellow will be provided with opportunities to gain experience in all aspects of the research process including preparation of both qualitative and quantitative data, data analysis, manuscript preparation, and knowledge translation. This person must be able to demonstrate excellent written communication skills. The successful fellow will also be expected to participate in collaborative research projects, capacity building activities through teaching in rounds, workshops, as well as playing active roles in our journal club. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to tailor the Fellowship experience to meet individualized learning needs, further develop research knowledge and skills and establish their own program of research

Terms of the Fellowship

The fellowship is a one-year full-time position with a salary commensurate with qualifications starting immediately.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- The Fellowship is open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada at the time of application;
- Completion of a PhD or equivalent in epidemiology, biostatistics or other health research areas within the last 5 years. Students currently enrolled in a doctoral program must

provide proof of eligibility for completion of all aspects of their thesis work by November 1, 2013;

- Demonstrate a strong interest and background in biostatistics, epidemiology and/or health services research;
- Preference will be given to applicants who are able to participate full-time for onsite research training and activities in Hamilton and
- Have a valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.

Application Process

Although the closing date for applications is **dependent on the quality of applications received** we plan to have the final selection process completed by November 2013.

Applications should be mailed, couriered or emailed in a single PDF to:

Dr. Noori Akhtar-Danesh, PhD

Associate Professor, School of Nursing, McMaster University

1280 Main Street West, Room 3N28B

Hamilton, ON L8S 4K1

daneshn@mcmaster.ca

The **completed application package must include the following components:**

- A summary of the applicant's education, employment and research experience and how the Fellowship experience will support the development of her/his program of research (maximum 200 words)
- An up to date curriculum vitae that includes all peer reviewed publications and presentations
- A sample of academic writing solely written by the applicant
- Three reference letters (e.g., from PhD/doctoral thesis supervisor and/or other faculty or researchers that can comment on how the applicant's academic achievements and research skills are a good fit and will enable successful completion of Fellowship goals.)

We thank all applicants, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.