PURPOSE STATEMENT:
The ANU College of Health and Medicine encompasses a tradition of research excellence that has fostered five Nobel Laureates and trains leaders in science, medicine, health and the environment in Research Schools consistently ranked among the top performers in the world in their various fields. Our academic and research staff in the College are committed to solving problems through big picture and applied scientific research, and improving health outcomes for people around the world.

These inspiring ambitions are realised through our three areas - National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health; the John Curtin School of Medical Research; and, the School of Medicine and Psychology who work together to deliver world-class research and education across the spectrum of medicine and health-related fields, and partnership with the health sector at the local, national and international levels.

The National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH) strives to improve the population’s mental and physical health through discovery, education, and the translation of research into effective health policy and practice, working on problems in Australia and Internationally. The different nature and focus of the Research centres ensure the successful cross-disciplinary approach to population health research, making it an internationally recognised reference for researchers and students.

This research assistant position will work on an exciting national program—AusPathoGen—conducting infectious disease surveillance based on whole-genome sequencing. The research assistant will provide support for activities of a team constructing a health economics model to evaluate the cost effectiveness of implementing whole-genome sequencing for public health surveillance of selected pathogens. The research assistant will coordinate meetings, source, synthesise and collate data, assist with the economic evaluation, and develop documents regarding progress of the economic evaluation. Knowledge of economics, and excellent communication skills will be highly regarded. An understanding of economic evaluation, epidemiology, and/or microbiology is desirable but not essential.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:

Position Dimension & Relationships:

The Research Assistant will report to Associate Professor Son Nghiem at the ANU. Under general direction, the Research Assistant will work with health economists, laboratory scientists, epidemiologists, and other external experts to assist in undertaking an economic evaluation of whole genome sequencing and associated presentations, reports, and publications on the cost effectiveness of whole-genome sequencing for public health surveillance of selected pathogens. The research assistant will coordinate meetings, source, synthesise and collate data, assist with the economic evaluation, and develop documents regarding progress of the economic evaluation. Knowledge of economics, and excellent communication skills will be highly regarded. An understanding of economic evaluation, epidemiology, and/or microbiology is desirable but not essential.
Role Statement:

- Attend study team meetings and meetings with external stakeholders,
- Prepare and revise reports and assist with the preparation of oral presentations to be delivered at stakeholder meetings and conferences,
- Support preparation of manuscripts, including literature searches, maintaining EndNote libraries, creation of tables and figures, drafting sections of papers, formatting, and online submission,
- Liaise with departments, collaborators, and community to coordinate their input to research activities in consultation with the research team,
- Assist with data entry, data cleaning, model building preparation (i.e., literature review, synthesise parameters), and data analysis related to the project,
- Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work health and safety and equal opportunity.
- Other duties as consistent with the classification of the position.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. A bachelor’s degree in economics, econometrics or a related quantitative field, or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education and training.
2. Sound knowledge of economics and quantitative research methodologies, including study design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.
3. Highly developed oral and written communication skills with the ability to contribute to research reports and the presentation of findings for a broad audience.
4. Highly developed computer skills particularly with Microsoft Office applications and data analysis software (e.g., R, or Stata, TreeAge) or other relevant software programs used in health economics research. Experience with data management and basic data analysis is essential.
5. Well-developed interpersonal skills including the ability to interact effectively with a diverse range of clients and both internal and external stakeholders.
6. Highly developed organisational and analytical skills and demonstrated ability to use initiative, establish priorities and meet deadlines, as well as working as part of a team with limited supervision.
7. A demonstrated understanding of equal opportunities principles and policies and a commitment to their application in a university context.

ANU Officer Levels 5 and 6 are broad banded in the stream. It is expected that at the higher levels within the broad band occupants will have a deeper understanding, and a more independent application, of the research theory and technique.

The ANU conducts background checks on potential employees, and employment in this position is conditional on satisfactory results in accordance with the Background Checking Procedure which sets out the types of checks required by each type of position.

Supervisor/Delegate Signature:          Date: 26/6/23
Printed Name:                           Uni ID: U1122769
Son Nghiem

References:
General Staff Classification Descriptors
Academic Minimum Standards