POSITION DESCRIPTION

Biostatistician

Position Level	7/8
Faculty/Division	Medicine & Health
Position Number	00097242
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Position Summary

The Biostatistician is responsible for providing analytical support across a number of retrospective cohort studies based on linked, administrative health and social data being undertaken at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC). These include, for example, studies examining the long-term outcomes of people with drug and alcohol problems, and those prescribed opioids for the treatment of pain. Core responsibilities will include designing, planning and analyzing pharmaco/epidemiological studies using linked health data, including descriptive studies relating to different types of treatment exposures and outcomes, as well as more complex study designs to establish the potential association between differing levels of treatment exposures and a range of health-related outcomes.

The role of the Biostatistician reports to the Senior Research Fellow and has no direct reports.

Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

Level 7

- Undertake data management and data analysis, including the application of advanced statistical techniques to large, complex linked datasets.

- Contribute to the design of pharmaco/epidemiological studies using appropriate statistical methods (e.g. survival analysis, conditional logistic regression, propensity scores).

- Accurately interpret the results of analyses and communicate the findings verbally and in written summaries.

- Manage data according to best practices, including liaison and correspondence with ethics committees and data custodians, data checking and quality control, development of analytical protocols, management of electronic files and records (including data dictionaries), and archiving.

- Contribute to ethics applications, progress reports and data governance for the study.

- Assist and contribute to the preparation of research grant proposals and tenders for commissioned research.

- Attend regular project meetings and provide updates on progress against study aims, including written updates for investigators.

- Independently plan workload and manage timelines to meet project outcomes within specified timeframes and budget schedules.

- Conduct and coordinate tasks relating to the research project to the highest scientific and ethical standards.

- Contribute to the preparation of scientific papers, protocols and conference abstracts.

- Perform other relevant duties as requested by supervisor.

- Align with and actively demonstrate the UNSW Values in Action: Our Behaviours and the UNSW Code of Conduct.

- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

Level 8

- Independently design, plan and execute complex analyses in accordance with study aims.

- Provide substantial contribution to the development of peer-reviewed papers and presentation of study findings.

Skills and Experience

Level 7

- Relevant degree specialising in statistics, biostatistics, epidemiology, pharmacoepidemiology or a related discipline, with relevant research experience or equivalent competence gained through any combination of education, training and experience.

- Demonstrated experience in the management and analysis of large complex health datasets, and analysis of linked, longitudinal data will be preferred.

- Highly developed data analysis skills and experience in use of one or more statistical packages including SAS, Stata or R, with evidence of applying a methodical and detailed approach to data exploration and cleaning.

- Demonstrated ability to independently and accurately perform complex statistical analyses and provide direction in research design and statistical analysis.

- Demonstrated understanding of ethical principles relating to privacy and confidentiality with ability to maintain the strictest confidentiality when dealing with sensitive data.

- Demonstrated success working effectively and collaboratively on initiatives with a range of people at different levels, both internal and external.

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with a high level of attention to detail for deliverables produced.

- An understanding of and commitment to UNSW's aims, objectives and values in action, together with relevant policies and guidelines.

- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training

Level 8

- Postgraduate degree in statistics, biostatistics, epidemiology, pharmacoepidemiology or a related discipline, with relevant research experience.

- Demonstrated ability to conceptualise novel research questions in areas relevant to public health or health services research, and to develop these into research outputs.

- Demonstrated capacity to carry out or contribute to independent research as indicated by a proven track record of writing reports or manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

About this document

This Position Description outlines the objectives, desired outcomes, key responsibilities, accountabilities, required skills, experience and desired behaviours required to successfully perform the role.

This template is not intended to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position. Characteristics of the position may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.