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## POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Position Level	A or B
Faculty/Division	Medicine
Position Number	00104597
Original document creation	April / 2022

### Position Summary

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will play a key role at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) undertaking research examining the effectiveness of treatments for opioid dependence and health outcomes for people who experience incarceration using data linkage methods. Importantly, this will involve working collaboratively with leading researchers at the Kirby Institute, UNSW as part of the team on the NHMRC *Advancing the health of people who use drugs: hepatitis C and drug dependence* (ASCEND) program grant ([Advancing the health of people who use drugs: hepatitis C and drug dependence \(ASCEND\) | NDARC - National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre \(unsw.edu.au\)](https://www.unsw.edu.au/ndarc)).

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will have the opportunity to work across a range of projects. Two of the studies include 1) a linked cohort of all people entering OAT in NSW since 2001, the Opioid Agonist Treatment and Safety (OATS) study ([Opioid Agonist Treatment and Safety \(OATS\) Study | NDARC - National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre \(unsw.edu.au\)](https://www.unsw.edu.au/ndarc)) and 2) a linked cohort that will include all people who have experienced incarceration since 2000 in NSW.

OATS uses use linked administrative data to understand risk for mortality and other adverse outcomes during and after opioid agonist treatment (OAT). It will use standard biostatistical approaches and sophisticated machine learning techniques. The study involves an international team of leading researchers in this area.

The study of people who have experienced incarceration will be a linked cohort of people who have experienced incarceration linked to health, crime and other records. Data on opioid dependence treatment and HCV treatment will be linked. The aims are to examine how receiving these treatments during incarceration and post-release affect people's well-being: overdose, hospital presentations, other health service use, mortality, as well as employment and recidivism.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will work closely with senior researchers at NDARC, the Kirby and internationally. The role of Postdoctoral Research Fellow reports to Scientia Professor, NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow and has no direct reports.

## Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

### Level A:

- Assist in developing and submitting new research grant applications and seek research funding
- Independently plan workload and manage timelines to meet project outcomes within specified timeframes and budget schedules
- Prepare and coordinate project ethics applications and data governance plans, along with the management and collection of data
- Lead and contribute to publications for submission to peer-reviewed journals
- Contribute to the dissemination of research findings to the scientific and wider community
- Contribute to HDR supervision as required
- Perform other duties as requested by the project leaders
- 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 B (in addition to above):

- Independently plan and execute analyses in accordance with study aims
- Lead the preparation of conference abstracts and publications for submission to peer-reviewed journals
- Lead or contribute to grant applications for new projects

## Skills and Experience

### Level A

- Completed PhD in a relevant discipline, including public health, epidemiology, social science, biostatistics, or health economics and/ or an equivalent level of knowledge gained through any other combination of education, training and/or and experience
- Relevant experience and applied knowledge in a health/medical field
- Demonstrated experience in methodologically rigorous data collection and/or data analyses
- Demonstrated high level communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative research team
- Evidence of research activity in at least one of NDARC's core workplan areas
- 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 B (in addition to above):**

- Strong research output, as evidenced by peer-reviewed journals and publications and success in applying and/or attracting competitive research funding
- Demonstrated capacity to carry out independent research as indicated by a proven track record of writing manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

**Pre-employment checks required for this position**

- Verification of qualifications

**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.