

Available post-doctoral research position at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH)



A 3-year position as post-doctoral researcher is available in a project funded by the Research Council of Norway. The project seeks to investigate social differences in exposure to environmental contaminants during pregnancy and how this may influence fetal brain development.

The position is located at NIPH's Department of Child Health and Development in the Division of Mental and Physical Health with offices located in Oslo. The department consists of about 30 employees, working with research projects covering a broad range of topics related to risk- and protective factors for child health and development. The department coordinates the work within NIPH's strategic developmental plan for mental health and prevention in children and youth and has extensive collaborations with other departments in the institute and national and international researchers.

About the project. The post-doctor will be affiliated with the project "Prenatal exposure to toxicants and childhood neurodevelopmental disorders and cognitive functions (NeuroTox)". As an extension of NeuroTox, NIPH collaborates with Centre for Global Health Inequalities Research (CHAIN) at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), in Trondheim, Norway. CHAIN is supported by the Research Council of Norway. The objective of NeuroTox CHAIN is to investigate if determinants of socioeconomic position are linked to contaminant levels measured in blood of pregnant women, and if social differences modify the relationship between maternal contaminant levels and neurodevelopmental outcomes in the child. The project uses data from the Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study and already acquired data in NeuroTox, as well as linkage to national health registries and Statistics Norway.

The research group consists of researchers within multiple disciplines, such as toxicology, epidemiology, pediatrics, psychology, and social economics. The project groups at NIPH and NTNU, collaborates with other research groups in among others China, USA, Great Britain, and Scotland, as well as UNICEF, WHO and the Global burden of Disease project. The post-doctoral researcher will work together with researchers from its own department and other departments at NIPH, in addition to national and international partners.

Job description

- Preparation and quality assurance of research data
- Conduct statistical data analysis according to the project's objectives
- Write and publish scientific articles in high-impact journals
- Contribute to reporting to the Research Council of Norway and to collaborators
- Dissemination of results in scientific fora (meetings/conferences/seminar), and to the public (popular science).
- Have an active role in the project group and in the department
- Contribute to development of scientific collaboration nationally and abroad
- Communicate knowledge produced by the project to governmental agencies, user groups and the public
- Some administrative tasks may be relevant in the project, like contact with collaborators, linkage of registry data, and prepare delivery of research data
- The position may require travels to meetings and conferences

Qualifications

- Doctoral degree in psychology, biology (toxicology), medicine, public health, global health, epidemiology, sociology or social economy or other relevant disciplines.
- Candidates who have submitted their doctoral thesis for evaluation before the application deadline may apply, but cannot start in the post-doctoral position until after the dissertation is approved
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English (required), some fluency in a Scandinavian language is helpful but not required
- Experience in quantitative statistical analyses, analyses of large data sets and use of statistical software is essential
- Experience with statistical software such as Stata or R is an advantage
- Thematic relevant research experience or practical knowledge/experience is an advantage

Personal qualities

- Enthusiastic and ability to collaborate
- Structured
- Ability to work independently, structured, long-term, and goal-oriented
- Results-oriented and ability to deliver
- Skilled in communication of results (oral and written)
- Personal qualities will be emphasized

We offer

- A three-year position as a post-doctoral researcher in Oslo, Norway
- The start date will be decided together with the candidate (preferably in early Fall 2021)
- Good welfare schemes and flexible working hours
- An interesting job within an important field of research, with possibility to develop expertise and potential for career development
- Ethical and respectful work environment
- Salary by agreement, within the state's wage regulation
- Good pension-scheme in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund (Statens Pensjonskasse)

Applications must include

- Cover letter of max. 2 pages (statement of motivation, summarising scientific work and research interest)
- CV and complete list of publications
- PhD diploma / Master diploma and transcript of grades from other graduate/undergraduate degrees
- List of 2-3 referees (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and phone number)

Application deadline is 13th of June 2021.

Contact persons:

- Dr. Heidi Aase (Department director, PI in NeuroTox CHAIN): e-mail: Heidi.Aase@fhi.no , Mobile nu: +47 97538324

- Dr. Gro Dehli Villanger (Researcher in NeuroTox CHAIN): e-mail: Gro.Dehli.Villanger@fhi.no , Mobile nu: +47 91605784