Position Description
Senior Research Officer - NOMAD study coordinator

Level: 7
School/Unit: NDARC
Faculty/Division: UNSW Medicine
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POSITION SUMMARY
The Senior Research Officer is the national coordinator of the National Opioid Medication Abuse Deterrence (NOMAD) study, and will be responsible for liaising with interview sites, conducting research interviews with people who misuse opioids and the collation of indicator data, data entry and analysis.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
Overview of the Faculty/School/Divisional Work Unit
UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia’s finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

The National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) was established at the University of New South Wales by the Commonwealth Government in 1986 to extend the knowledge base required for effective treatment of individuals with alcohol and other drug related problems and to enhance the overall research capacity in the drug and alcohol field. The Centre is highly regarded, both nationally and internationally, for its contribution to drug and alcohol research.

The National Opioid Medication Abuse Deterrence (NOMAD) study is a national study that involves multiple collaborators within NDARC, and with other researchers and clinicians across the country. There are a number of aims of the NOMAD study, all of which examine whether the introduction of an abuse deterrent formulation of oxycodone reduces the extent of its misuse and diversion, and attractiveness on the illicit market (the overarching hypothesis). We also aim to examine whether the reduction in misuse of one opioid formulation is associated with an increase in misuse of other opioids or less abuse deterrent formulations.
Statistics

NDARC is a dynamic research centre, with approximately 140 staff and 28 PhD students. There are currently over 90 different projects in progress.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor's title: Professor/Principal Research Fellow
Other positions reporting to the supervisor: various research fellows, research assistants and PhD students
Positions reporting to this position: research officers, casual interviewers
Other relationships: liaison with other study sites in Tasmania and South Australia

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Negotiate access to interview sites (e.g. clinics, pharmacies, general practices) and maintain communication regarding recruitment and interviewing;
- Maintain regular communication with research officers overseeing data collection in Tasmania and South Australia via email and teleconferences, and monitor progress in these States;
- Interview people who misuse pharmaceutical opioids;
- Liaise with and report regularly to the project investigators;
- Ensure data entry is undertaken and complete;
- Negotiate access to indicator data sources as specified in the study protocol;
- Design and undertake statistical analyses, and collaborate with biostatisticians to ensure appropriate conduct of complex analyses with their advice/input;
- Contribute to research papers for publication in high quality peer-reviewed journals;
- Ensure that a system of work that is safe and without risk to health is developed, documented and followed by staff and students through appropriate training, supervision and monitoring;
- Help prepare manuscripts and contribute to the dissemination of research findings to the scientific and wider community;
- Independently plan own workload and develop timelines in the context of the overall study aims, in order to meet project outcomes within appropriate time and budget schedules;
- Prepare updates for, and attend, weekly group meetings (and other research meetings as appropriate);
- 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.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- Relevant degree in behavioural sciences, statistics or epidemiology;
- Demonstrated skills in data management, statistical design and analysis;
- Proven ability to work both independently and in a collaborative research team;
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain professional working relationships with other agencies;
- Excellent time management and organisational skills with a proven ability to deal with multiple tasks; establish priorities and meet deadlines;
- Demonstrated high level written and oral communication skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Ability to implement equal opportunity and diversity policies and programs.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

It is not the intention of the position description to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position but to highlight the most important aspects of the position. The aspects mentioned above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.