

## POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN CLINICAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The Department of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta is accepting applications for a postdoctoral position intended for a PhD trained individual interested in supporting quality, safety, and operational improvement initiatives in the health care system. The fellowship has been made available by the support of the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation through the Women and Children's Health Research Institute.

The fellowship will occur within a large-scale mental health initiative in Alberta's pediatric emergency departments in Edmonton and Calgary. The initiative entails clinical collaboration between administrative, clinical and quality leadership at the Stollery Children's Hospital (Edmonton, Alberta) and Alberta Children's Hospital (Calgary, Alberta), and research collaboration between the Departments of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta and University of Calgary. The postdoctoral fellow will work alongside clinical and research leadership to develop, implement and evaluate Edmonton-based quality improvement activities transform pediatric mental health care in the pediatric emergency department at the Stollery Children's Hospital. The fellow will participate in both interdisciplinary research and clinical operations (hospital) committee work to gain understanding of the context in which improvement work is taking place and how to best effect change in the complex area of mental health care delivery. The position will involve developing expertise in using statistical process control for the evaluation of health care delivery changes, and overseeing the analysis of quality improvement data using run charts, statistical process control, and traditional statistical methods. The fellow will also have opportunities to enhance academic writing and communication skills and establish new professional and peer collaborations.

The successful candidate will be co-mentored by Dr. Amanda Newton, a clinician scientist and professor of pediatrics at the University of Alberta, and Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman, a clinical associate professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine at the University of Calgary and Medical Director for Quality and Safety at Alberta Children's Hospital.

### **Qualifications and Skills:**

Candidates must meet all of the following requirements:

- Completed a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology, Public Health, Psychology, Pediatrics, Nursing, or related field from an accredited academic program
- Basic skills in epidemiology and statistics
- Experience in evaluating the effectiveness of clinical interventions or programs
- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team as well as independently
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills and be comfortable collaborating with a range of health care professionals

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

- Clinical and/or research experience in children's mental health care and/or pediatric emergency care
- Knowledge of quality improvement principles, methods, and tools
- Experience using Excel and experience or aptitude to learn QI Macros
- Experience in utilizing quality improvement strategies, using data sets for quality improvement or evaluation purposes, and/or implementation research
- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team as well as independently
- Excellent scientific writing and verbal skills in English

### **Contract Details:**

Duration: The appointment will be for 1-2 years dependent on the applicant's goals, fit and productivity.  
Stipend: Up to \$70,000 per annum including supplemental benefits for up to 2 years + \$5,000 professional development allowance for approved project and conference related activities. Opportunities for the fellow to apply for additional salary support (e.g., Canadian Institutes of Health Research) will be explored. For details on pay and supplemental benefits, please see: <https://www.ualberta.ca/research/support/postdoctoral-office/pay-benefits>

**To Apply:**

Interested candidates should submit:

- A *cover letter* detailing why you are interested in the fellowship, experience related to the fellowship responsibilities above, and career goals.
- An up-to-date *CV* (curriculum vitae) that includes a list of all training experiences, grant and/or training funding, awards, and publications. Please include the month/year of start and completion of all degrees and your current position.
- *Transcripts* (for each degree, notarized, translated into English, as necessary)
- A *letter* of recommendation from your current supervisor or doctoral supervisor

**Applications should be sent in full by email with the subject title: Application for Postdoctoral Position in Clinical Quality Improvement to Dr. Amanda Newton ([mandi.newton@ualberta.ca](mailto:mandi.newton@ualberta.ca))**

**Application Deadline:** November 25, 2019

**Position Start Date:** January 6, 2020

**We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those individuals selected for an interview will be contacted.**

*The University of Alberta is committed to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce. We welcome applications from all qualified persons. We encourage women; First Nations, Métis and Inuit; members of visible minority groups; persons with disabilities; persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity and expression; and all those who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas and the University to apply.*