

VACANCY	
Job title:	Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (2 year's contract)
Division:	Non-Communicable Diseases Research (NCDR)
Type:	Permanent ☐ Fixed Term ☒ Temporary ☐
Main purpose of the job:	The applicant will have the opportunity to work in a dynamic, international and supportive research environment (within the Strengthening Oncology Services Research Unit of the University of the Witwatersrand- SOSRU) and supervised by Dr Maureen Joffe, SOSRU Director and Prof Dan O'Neil Yale University, USA, collaborator on the early detection of breast cancer research programme.
Location:	Johannesburg, and the study will be based in Soweto.
Closing date:	28 November 2025
Submit detailed CV to:	vacancies32@witshealth.co.za
Advert reference number:	Post Doctoral Fellow_NCDR
In accordance with our Employment Equity goals and plan, preference will be given to suitable applicants from designated groups as defined in the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 and subsequent amendments thereto.	

This candidate must have an academic training or acquired knowledge in theoretical frameworks or conceptual models that underpin qualitative research methodology. The candidate must be familiar with the terms 'ontology' or 'epistemology' and grounded theory and "phenomenology" or 'case study' or other such terms that form the basis of qualitative research. Experience and expertise in systematic reviews is an enormous advantage.

Key performance areas

- Must be able to apply appropriate qualitative and/or implementation science theoretical and conceptual frameworks to guide study design and analysis.
- Experience with implementation science research including community cluster randomized trials -not drug trials.
- Project manage a study to assess the feasibility and acceptability of home-based screening clinical breast examination in Soweto.
- Perform qualitative needs analysis research through in-depth interviews and focus group sessions with identified stakeholders (community health workers, CHW managers, clinical stakeholders, community leaders and community women in their homes).
- Manage and participate in the training of clinical research assistants who will conduct the interviews and focus group sessions.
- Participate as a co-researcher in data analysis, coding and publication writeup.
- Lead or support implementation science projects, particularly those focused on needs analysis and field operationalisation of interventions (non-drug trials).
- Apply appropriate qualitative and/or implementation science theoretical and conceptual frameworks to guide study design and analysis.
- Undertake acceptability assessments of interventions using established theoretical models.
- Contribute to the development of study protocols, data collection tools, and analytic frameworks.
- Collaborate with multidisciplinary research teams and stakeholders across various project phases.
- Prepare reports, presentations, and manuscripts to disseminate research findings.

- Ensure adherence to ethical standards and quality assurance processes in all research activities.

Required minimum education and training

- PhD degree in Epidemiology, Medical Sciences or Public Health.

Required minimum work experience

- 1 year experience in fieldwork.
- Proven experience in designing and conducting qualitative research.
- Proven experience in conducting and publishing systematic reviews.

Desirable additional education, work experience and personal abilities

- Experience in implementation science will be an advantage.
- Having experience in managing study support staff (trained fieldworkers) will be an advantage.
- Friendly outgoing personality.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Good emotional intelligence.
- Familiar with the Public Health System.

Should you be interested in applying for this vacancy, please send an email to vacancies32@witshealth.co.za

The subject heading of the email must read **Post Doctoral Fellow_NCDR**

Please include the following documentation:

- A cover letter (maximum one page) that clearly states which vacancy you are applying for
- A detailed CV
- PhD certificate