

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

**Title:** Research Associate  
**Location:** Child Health BC/BCCHRI  
**Group:** Dr. Maureen O'Donnell's team  
**Department:** Pediatrics  
**Duration:** One-year full-time term position (with potential to renew for a second year)

## **JOB SUMMARY**

Child Health BC is a provincial health network whose Steering Committee brings together child health administrators and physician leaders from all of BC's health authorities, UBC Department of Pediatrics, UBC Division of Pediatric Surgery, Perinatal Services BC, Principals and Vice-Principals Association of BC and physician professional association leadership from the BC Pediatric Society and the Doctors of BC. The three key child serving ministries — the Ministry of Health, Ministry for Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Education — also are active participants at the Steering Committee table. In addition to the UBC Departments, linkages to the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute are in place. Child Health BC is an initiative of BC Children's Hospital.

One of Child Health BC's (CHBC's) major province-wide initiatives is the development of the Tiers of Service framework. The Tiers of Service provide a common language and methodology for defining and planning child and youth health services in BC. For each of the major areas of health services - such as children's emergency care, children's medicine, children's surgery, children's intensive care - a Tiers of Service "module" has been or is being created. After module creation, the next step is to work with health authority partners to complete a self-assessment and to analyze and summarize the results in a way that will support future provincial, regional and local planning. This process has been undertaken for the Children's Emergency Department Services module.

Recently, CHBC facilitated the development of Tiers of Service modules for Children's Medical Services and Children's Surgical Services. CHBC plans to embark on a self-assessment process for each of these modules. The process will build on the Emergency Department process and will help inform the self-assessment process for future modules. BC is seen as a leader in the country for undertaking this work. There is potential for BC to set the standard for how Tiers of Service are developed and assessed in Canada.

The role of the Child Health BC Tiers of Service Research Associate is to lead the development of the self-assessment system for the Children's Medical and Children's Surgical Services modules.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL STATUS**

The individual will work under close supervision of Dr. Maureen O'Donnell who will provide support as it relates to the Child Health BC Tiers of Service framework. They will be also co-supervised by Dr. Elodie Portales-Casamar who will provide support as it relates to data design, collection, management, and analysis. The team will meet regularly to assess progress and define goals and timelines.

## **WORK PERFORMED**

Key job functions of the CHBC Research Associate include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Conceptualizing and designing a self-assessment system with appropriate flexibility and reusability.
  - The desired system will integrate, automate and streamline the processes for gathering information and analyzing responses.
  - Conceptualization of the desired system will incorporate feedback from interactions with stakeholders.
  - CHBC will be able to utilize components of the system as needed for future self-assessment processes for other modules.
2. Designing the self-assessment surveys for the Children's Medical and Surgical modules.
3. Overseeing the set-up of the self-assessment survey in REDCap and monitoring completion of the surveys in "real-time."
4. Advising on the export of data from REDCap to an appropriate platform for analysis.
5. Conducting extensive data analyses and translating the results into site, health authority and provincial reports.

## **CONSEQUENCE OF ERROR/JUDGEMENT**

Errors will result in incorrect data collection, poor program evaluation, and potentially affect important BC health services. Problems will be resolved through discussions with supervisors.

## **SUPERVISION RECEIVED**

After initial training the incumbent is expected to manage the project with general supervision. Dr. O'Donnell will initially review tasks on a weekly basis then less frequently as appropriate. Candidate will also routinely discuss work and results with Dr. Portales-Casamar and will consult with experts in the fields and other stakeholders as appropriate.

## **SUPERVISION GIVEN**

Individual is expected to train other team members on valuation framework developed and associated data collection tasks.

## **WORKING CONDITIONS**

Primarily work in dry space on computer.

## **PERSONNEL SPECIFICATIONS**

Qualifications and skills: PHD in a discipline relevant to application of data and statistical analysis in a healthcare setting. In addition:

- Demonstrated methodological and analytic experience in projects of a similar nature;
- Experience in health services evaluation approaches, including survey design, outcome analysis and statistical methodology;
- Ability to clearly and effectively communicate complex and detailed data into meaningful information;
- Experience with project management, program planning and evaluation;
- Self-directed with excellent problem solving skills;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Child Health and child health systems knowledge an asset.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is strongly committed to equity and diversity within its community. We especially welcome applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and others with the skills and knowledge to productively engage with diverse communities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.