Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in Pain Management Pharmacogenomics

The Departments of Pediatrics and Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics at The University of British Columbia (UBC) invite applications for the position of Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in Pharmacogenomics of Pain Management. The successful applicant will also hold a concurrent appointment as an Investigator at the BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR) located at BC Children’s Hospital.

Candidates for this position must hold a PharmD, PhD, MD/PhD or MD/MSc degree, awarded within the past 10 years, or equivalent with postdoctoral research experience. The candidate will have demonstrated clear evidence of potential to develop an independent research program in the area of pharmacogenomics and pain management, with expertise in but not limited to medical genetics, clinical pharmacology, pain medicine, anesthesiology, and drug metabolism. The candidate should also show a proven ability to obtain external funding, interest in graduate student supervision and undergraduate teaching.

This position offers a unique cross-disciplinary opportunity to bridge research and clinical practice in the areas of acute and chronic pain management using pharmacogenomics-driven, patient-specific pain management strategies. This position builds on four key areas of translation and innovation within the field of pharmacogenomics: 1. Discovery/replication of genomic variants highly predictive of drug outcomes; 2. Validation of mechanisms by which genomic variants significantly affect drug outcomes; 3. Translational implementation science of highly predictive and validated pharmacogenomic biomarkers into clinical practice; 4. Commercialization research to bring clinically meaningful findings to the rest of Canada and the world.

This joint appointment will be between the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics. This partnership will enable translational research, working with patients and clinicians located at BC Children’s Hospital and the Lower Mainland academic anesthesiology hospital sites to move new innovations into clinical practice. The BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute, Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics offer unique environments in which basic science research, clinical research, and clinical practice converge to ensure a multi-disciplinary research approach to clinically relevant problems regarding drug safety and effectiveness. This is crucial to bridging the gap between research and clinical practice to enable translation of research findings into clinical practice.

Office and laboratory space will be located within the Canadian Pharmacogenomics Network for Drug Safety (CPNDS) at BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute. CPNDS is the largest pharmacogenomics lab of its kind in Western Canada in terms of staff, productivity, funding, and size. It spans 9560 sq. ft. of newly renovated space and includes over $11M in recent infrastructure investments with labs and equipment specifically developed for precision medicine pharmacogenomic analyses, including specialized clean rooms, an automated DNA purification suite, freezer rooms, and functional/mechanistic labs. The centre includes multiple next-generation DNA sequencing and high-throughput genotyping platforms with secure computing infrastructure.

BCCHR is the largest research institute of its kind in Western Canada, with more than 300 Investigators forming a dynamic and highly collaborative research community that aims to improve the health of children and their families. The successful candidate will have opportunities to collaborate with a large and diverse community of basic scientists and clinicians. Additional research facilities available to the candidate at the BCCHR include: the MRI Research Facility which
houses a research dedicated 3T MRI scanner (with pain imaging capacity); the Biobehavioral Research Unit (biobehavioral phenotyping); and other resources in Psychiatry and Psychology to facilitate pain management research.

The incumbent will be accountable to the Department Heads of Pediatrics and Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics for overall academic productivity and for appointment/reappointment and promotion activities. Within the Department of Pediatrics, the candidate is expected to join the Division of Translational Therapeutics, and within the BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute to join the Theme of their choosing. The division heads and theme lead will be valuable mentors for the development of an internationally recognized research program.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Competitive start-up infrastructure development funds will be provided. The anticipated start date for this position is July 1 2020, or a date to be mutually agreed upon.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, a detailed summary of research interests describing two potentially fundable projects (maximum 5 pages), a statement of teaching accomplishments and interests, and the names of three references should be directed to:

Dr. Allison Eddy
Professor and Head, UBC Department of Pediatrics
c/o Kim De Gannes, Executive Assistant
Email: Kimberley.degannes@phsa.ca
Subject Line: Pharmacogenomics of Pain Management Position

The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world and 3rd largest university in Canada with an economic impact of 12.5 billion to the provincial economy. Since 1915, UBC’s West Coast spirit has embraced innovation and challenged the status quo. Its entrepreneurial perspective encourages students, staff and faculty to challenge convention, lead discovery and explore new ways of learning. At UBC, bold thinking is given a place to develop into ideas that can change the world. As one of the world’s leading universities, The University of British Columbia creates an exceptional learning environment that fosters global citizenship, advances a civil and sustainable society, and supports outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world.

Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.