Role profile

Job title | Research Associate/Fellow
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Job family and level | Research and Teaching Level 4
School/Department | Sociology and Social Policy
Location | Institute of Mental Health, Jubilee Campus

Purpose of role
To implement the UK arm of a cross-national trial involving 5 countries: Norway, Germany, The Netherlands, Turkey and UK. Music Interventions for Dementia and Depression in Elderly Care (MIDDEL) will provide internationally-generalisable results concerning the effects of Music Therapy and Group Recreational Singing in care homes. See the published protocol for further details.

The role holder will have operational responsibility for delivering MIDDEL and will be expected to implement the protocol, conduct the research, be an active member of the research team and will be jointly responsible for writing up the study for publication. The UK team are responsible for leading on public participation and involvement (PPI) across the study.

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<th>Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)</th>
<th>% time per year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>To recruit up to 20 care homes to participate in the study and up to 200 care home residents with depression and/or dementia to participate, coordinating study allocation with the trial administrators in Norway.</td>
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<td>To co-ordinate the operational aspects of the study, for example, liaising with the interventionists, planning meetings, updating web sites etc. and contribute to collaborative decision making with the research team working on the study.</td>
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<td>To build relationships and work closely with lay stakeholders including people with dementia, carers and organisational representatives, promoting their involvement in all aspects of the study.</td>
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<td>To oversee the ethical governance of the study, liaising with the sponsor and HRA as required (eg protocol amendments, regular reporting)</td>
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<td>To oversee the adoption of the study by the NIHR Clinical Research Network and liaise with the Clinical Research Network who are expected to help collect data.</td>
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<td>To administer standardised questionnaires to people with dementia, including screening for eligibility.</td>
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Person specification

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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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| **Skills**       | ▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information.  
▪ Ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods.  
▪ Ability to analyse and illuminate quantitative and qualitative data.  
▪ Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy effectively.  
▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, both internally and externally.  
▪ Ability to assimilate and evaluate published research. | ▪ Understanding of and ability to put into practice the principles of person-centred care in dementia.  
▪ Commitment to service improvement through research.  
▪ Evidence of active interest in music, particularly in care settings.  
▪ Ability to foster a research culture and commitment to learn in others. |
| **Knowledge and experience** | ▪ Experience of delivering qualitative and quantitative research interviews and analysing the resulting data  
▪ Experience of project management  
▪ Experience of supporting the wellbeing of people with dementia through research  
▪ Some practical experience of PPI engagement. | ▪ Previous success in gaining support for externally funded research projects.  
▪ Familiarity with the care home environment. |
| **Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)** | ▪ PhD or equivalent in relevant subject area or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience in research area.  
▪ OR near to completion of a PhD | ▪ Driving licence and access to a vehicle, |
Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

**Valuing people**
Is always equitable and fair and works with integrity. Proactively looks for ways to develop the team and is comfortable providing clarity by explaining the rationale behind decisions.

**Taking ownership**
Is highly self-aware, looking for ways to improve, both taking on board and offering constructive feedback. Inspires others to take accountability for their own areas.

**Forward thinking**
Driven to question the status quo and explore new ideas, supporting the team to “lead the way” in terms of know-how and learning.

**Professional pride**
Sets the bar high with quality systems and control measures in place. Demands high standards of others identifying and addressing any gaps to enhance the overall performance.

**Always inclusive**
Ensures accessibility to the wider community, actively encouraging inclusion and seeking to involve others. Ensures others always consider the wider context when sharing information making full use of networks and connections.

Key relationships with others

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Line manager

Role holder

Key stakeholder relationships

Principal Investigator

Research Associate/Fellow

Project team

Research centres & participants
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