



University of Cape Town
Department of Pathology
Division of Human Genetics



GENETICS POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP – 2019

The Division of Human Genetics invites highly motivated individuals to apply for a Genetics Postdoctoral Research Fellowship to be part of a multidisciplinary team of experts as part of the Hearing Impairment Genetics Study in Africa (HIGeneS Africa) project under the directorship of Prof Ambroise Wonkam.

Scope of research:

The HIGENE Africa project aims to use Whole genome sequencing (WES), bio-informatic analysis and functional studies to study the largest sample of sub-Saharan Africans from Cameroon, Mali, Ghana, Sudan, Rwanda and South Africa with prelingual autosomal recessive non-syndromic hearing impairment (ARNSHI), to identify novel and relevant NSHI genes in African populations.

The successful applicants will perform research using Whole Exome Sequencing as part of a multidisciplinary team; assist with laboratory and sample management; to conduct research; publication writing; assist with patient recruitment; assist with community and public engagement; to contribute to departmental administration and to supervise postgraduate students.

Applicants must have:

- A PhD degree (achieved within 2 years of this application) in an area of Human Genetics, Molecular/Cell Biology or Bioinformatics.
- Proficient in standard molecular biology techniques (e.g. cloning, site-directed mutagenesis, and fragment analysis, DNA and RNA isolation, quantitative Real Time PCR, RNA interference), and immunoblotting), common cell biology techniques (e.g. immunofluorescence). Experience in sequence library preparation (e.g., using the Illumina NextSeq™ 500)
- Experience in basic statistics like R, SPSS and STATA
- Previous experience in LIMS and quality control

The following would be advantageous:

- Evidence of a publication record
- Bioinformatics skill set needed to process raw FASTQ files

General Conditions:

The appointee will be responsible for experimental design, data analyses, and manuscript preparation, standard operating procedures and have a research trajectory that includes competitive applications for collaborative funding to support their research focus. Further

- applicants may not have held any prior professional or academic posts;
- successful applicants will be required to comply with the university's policies and practices for the postdoctoral sector;
- the fellowships do not include any benefits or allowances, and
- the successful candidate will be required to register as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at UCT from 1 January 2019.

Value and tenure:

The fellowship is valued at R300 000 per annum. The fellowship may be renewed for a second year depending on satisfactory progress and mutual agreement.

Applications:

Please email applications to Dr Carmen de Kock
(carmen.dekock@uct.ac.za)

The following documents are required:

- a letter of application in which the candidate's research interests are outlined;
- a Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications;
- certified copies of all academic transcripts (no certificates); and
- the names and contact details of two academic referees who have taught/supervised the applicant.

Closing date for applications is 26 November 2018

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to:

- disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications,
- change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all