Postdoc Mathematical Statistician

Copenhagen, Denmark

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Centre

Postdoc mathematical statistician at the Research Unit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center, Mental Health Services – Capital Region of Denmark

The position is scheduled to commence in August 2017 or as soon as possible thereafter, and it is initially limited to 3 years.

The Research Unit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center conducts epidemiological, clinical and translational research in child psychiatry with the overall aim to promote the best clinical and preventive practice. Several prospective longitudinal intervention studies investigate both the effects of interventions and the neurodevelopmental and bio-psycho-social risk processes driving the development of mental disorders in children and adolescents and influencing the response to treatment. The research unit collaborates with several national and international research institutes.

The Postdoc position is offered jointly with the Department of Public Health, Section of Biostatistics at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. (www.biostat.ku.dk)

Job description and qualification requirements

The Postdocs will be involved in several projects in the Research Unit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center (see below), and assist the researchers by planning and carrying out statistical analyses. These data can be also be used as case material for research at the Section of Biostatistics. The postgraduate position includes an obligation to publish and communicate scientific findings and provide research-based teaching and advice within the areas of biostatistics for staff and students in the Research unit in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center. Postdoc’s different functions may vary periodically according to the Research Unit and the Biostatistical Department’s requirements. During the term of the employment, supervision will be provided as well as possibilities of educational upgrading and a final written evaluation of the post doc’s qualifications.

The positions require research in applied and theoretical biostatistics, including publication and scientific communication; and experience on these aspects is preferable, but not strictly necessary.

Development of statistical methods for use in several different longitudinal studies, including particularly the Mind My Mind study

The Mind My Mind study is a randomized trial of a transdiagnostic, cognitive and behavioural intervention versus treatment as usual in school-aged children with emotional and behavioural disturbances. The postdoc will work part time as a member of the Mind My Mind research group, headed by Pia Jeppesen, associate professor, PhD, and senior consultant in child and adolescent Psychiatry. The particular challenges will include analyses of data from a randomized controlled trial with a longitudinal follow-up with many repeated measures, different amounts of missing data across treatment condition and sites, and a nested structure of data due to clustering
of data within diagnostic groups, therapists etc. The Postdoc will plan and carry out the statistical analyses for the Mind My Mind including mixed models and multilevel growth modeling using maximum likelihood estimation to create treatment response probabilities trajectories.

The Postdoc will furthermore take part in the planning and investigation of the register-based long-term outcomes and the health care costs of the child, the school performance and the parents’ labor market situation. The individual costs and outcomes will be collected on the individual level from the national registers (landspatientregisteret, lægemiddeldatabasen, sygesikringsdatabasen) covering e.g. outpatient services, inpatient services, emergency rooms visits, prescription medicine from pharmacy, general practitioner visits and subsidized visits to specialized doctors, physiotherapists and psychologists. Parents’ labor market situation will be collected from the DREAM-database that holds the unique data of sickness absence, compensation benefits and other social transfer payments. Finally the Postdoc will contribute to the statistical plan for the cost-effectiveness and cost-utility analyses for the Mind My Mind study in collaboration with the Danish Institute for Local and Regional Government Research; and the University of Southern Denmark, Department of Business and Economics & Department of Public Health.

Moreover the candidate will assist Postdoc and PhD students in different projects at the Research Unit.

**Formal and personal qualifications**

The successful candidate must hold

- a background in mathematical statistics or other similar education.
- PhD degree or research qualifications of equivalent level.
- experience with analysis of longitudinal studies with repeated measurements, and handling of missing data.
- experience with design and analysis of a randomized controlled trial (RCT), including power calculations, or other relevant research.
- ability to collaborate with several research groups, create and maintain balance, structure and overview in the handling of the many different tasks and expectations.
- ability to work solution-oriented within the framework and possibilities of the projects.
- ability to communicate both verbally and as a writer of scientific papers for international journals.

**Salary and employment terms**

Salary and employment terms are subject to the collective agreement made between the Danish Ministry of Finance and the Danish Confederation of Professional Associations on the employment of academics.

The workplace will be the Research Unit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center, Mental Health Services – Capital Region of Denmark, which is located in Glostrup and in Bispebjerg in the greater Copenhagen area. The Postdoc is also expected to spend part of the time at Section of Biostatistics, Department of Public Health in the heart of Copenhagen and participate in research meetings there.

**Further information**

For further information please contact the Research Unit of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center in Copenhagen, Professor Kerstin Plessen, Email kerstin.jessica.plessen@regionh.dk, tel +45 3864 1181; or senior researcher and leader of
the Mind My Mind research group, Pia Jeppesen, Email pia.jeppesen@regionh.dk, tel +45 3864 0776.

For further information regarding the statistical research contact Professor Claus Ekstrøm, Email ekstrom@sund.ku.dk, tel +45 3532 7597.

Procedure
The application must contain:

- Cover letter (half to one page), including:
  - A statement detailing the basis on which the applicant wishes his or her scientific, and other qualifications to be assessed.
  - A detailed account of other qualifications relevant to the post applied for.
  - Description of relevant background, national or international experience and motivation.
  - Curriculum vitae.
  - Complete publication list.

Deadline for application is 1st of May 2017. Material received after this time will not be considered. Job interviews will take place in May 2017.

APPLY
After the expiry of the deadline for applications, the authorized recruitment manager selects applicants for assessment on the advice of the Appointments Committee. All applicants are then immediately notified whether their application has been passed for assessment by an expert assessment committee. Selected applicants are notified of the composition of the committee and each applicant has the opportunity to comment on the part of the assessment that relates to the applicant him/herself.

The Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences comprises app. 7500 students, app. 1500 PhD students and app. 3200 employees. The Faculty creates new knowledge and recognition through its core activities: research, teaching, knowledge sharing and communication. With basic research fields ranging from molecular studies to studies of society, the Faculty contributes to a healthy future through its graduates, research findings and inventions for the benefit of patients and the community.

The Mental Health Services – Capital Region (RHP) is the largest psychiatric hospital in Denmark. The psychiatric hospital comprises nine adult psychiatric centers, one child and adolescent mental health center and a joint staff function. The psychiatric hospital has approximately 5,000 employees who every year handle the treatment of almost 50,000 citizens with mental illness. This corresponds to approximately 40 percent of the total psychiatric treatment in Denmark. The hospital organization values high professional quality, patient and caregiver satisfaction, efficient workflow and a high degree of involvement of patients in treatment.

https://www.statsjobs.com/job/postdoc-mathematical-statistician/