The Department of Population Medicine (DPM) resides within the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute (HPHCI), and is an appointing department of Harvard Medical School. DPM conducts the research that helps to provide information to people at all levels of our health care system, from government health officials to private citizens faced with day-to-day choices about how to maintain their own health. We inform regulatory and policy decision-makers, individual clinicians and patients who need reliable evidence about what treatments and medications work best for specific conditions. Here at DPM we work to create a knowledge base that enriches the health care system and the quality of medical education.

Summary of Position
The Biostatistician will join a group of investigators consisting of epidemiologists and biostatisticians to primarily support the Sentinel Program (www.mini-sentinel.org), a program sponsored by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for monitoring the safety of FDA-regulated medical products. The Biostatistician will be responsible for providing statistical support for the fulfillment of FDA-initiated queries of medical product safety issues, protocol-based studies and surveillance activities. The Biostatistician will also have opportunities to participate in statistical methods and tool development activities to help improve statistical analyses and inference using large electronic healthcare databases. The Biostatistician will work with multidisciplinary teams of clinicians, epidemiologists, project managers, programmers, analysts, and will interact frequently with FDA and non-FDA statisticians and investigators. The Biostatistician will have the option of sitting within DPM’s Biostatistics Center and receive mentoring and guidance from experienced faculty biostatisticians with in-depth statistical expertise on a variety of topics including causal inference, missing data, time-varying exposure and confounding in longitudinal data, and time-series analysis. This is a non-faculty appointment and does not require the person to obtain independent funding. The Biostatistician will have a non-faculty, academic appointment with Harvard Medical School, and will be entitled to an annual travel fund to attend professional conferences. Title will be determined based on experience.

Duties and Responsibilities
1. Provide statistical support for various Sentinel activities including fulfillment of FDA-initiated queries of medical product safety issues, protocol-based assessments, active surveillance activities, and possibly some statistical methodological activities.
2. Work on a day-to-day basis with the project director and programmer/analist to implement protocols or surveillance plans of retrospective and prospective surveillance studies.
3. Provide statistical support for methods and tool development activities.
4. Develop functional specifications and work with programmer/analist to implement new methods, develop new analytic tools, or enhance existing tools functionalities and outputs.
5. Lead or participate in training on new statistical methods or tools to FDA personnel and Sentinel investigators and staff.
6. Participate in writing interim and final deliverables, including reports and peer-reviewed publications.
7. Coordinate meetings of collaborators and provides interim written and statistical summaries of results for discussion by FDA personnel and Sentinel investigators.

Required Education, Experience and Skills
1. Applicants must have a doctoral degree in biostatistics, statistics, or a related field.
2. Prior experience with advanced pharmacoepidemiologic methods, such as propensity score-based approaches, is desired.
3. Strong computational skills and programming that enable data visualization is desired.
4. Prior experience with sequential analytic methods is preferred.
5. Prior experience with large electronic healthcare databases (administrative claims data in particular) and multi-center studies is preferred.
6. Excellent written and oral communication skills.
7. Ability to work independently.
8. Knowledge of study design, research methodology and statistical analysis.
9. Strong organizational and problem solving skills.

Working Conditions
Excellent working conditions with some flexible hours.

Compensation
Competitive salary and benefits. HPHCI sponsors work visa (H1B).

To apply
Send a curriculum vitae and the names of three references to Mildred Portillo at Mildred_Portillo@harvardpilgrim.org.