**Job Description**

**Research Fellow**

The Research Wing of the Institute of Psychiatry, Rawalpindi Medical University is looking to appoint a Research Fellow with experience in population health, mental health, nutrition or equivalent experience to contribute to all the research activities of the NIHR-funded “Centre for Improving Mental and Physical Health Together (IMPACT)”.

The applicant will be primarily working on the project ‘Developing a weight management intervention for people with severe mental illness (SMI) in Bangladesh and Pakistan’. This programme aims to co-create an intervention for weight management in people with SMI. The project is based on the institute of psychiatry and the role will be focused on collecting information about barriers and enablers for a healthy diet, active lifestyle and good sleep; and patient preference information on the delivery and content of a health promotion intervention for weight management.

People with SMI suffer from health inequalities and a shorter life expectancy, there is a need to implement health promotion interventions delivered in mental health services to improve the physical health of people with SMI. Done successfully, this project will help to address the obesity problem in this population and contribute to better health and well-being of this population. Thus, the focus of this work will be to engage with people with SMI and multiple stakeholders to co-create this intervention.

In this role, as a Research Fellow in the NIHR Center for IMPACT, you will conduct research under the supervision and mentorship of Dr Gerardo Zavala, Dr Faiza Aslam, Professor Asad Tamizuddin and Professor Najma Siddiqi.

The Center for IMPACR offers flexible working patterns and several career development initiatives.

The job will be based on a contract that will be renewed annually, based on performance, and will be full-time (40 hours per week)

Responsibilities

* To carry out high-quality academic research and deliver research outputs in the area of applied obesity research, that will contribute to the centre for IMPACT research portfolio.
* To conduct and supervise mixed methods research programmes including delivering interviews, focus groups and surveys and analysing the information.
* To manage mixed methods research projects including multi-county researchers and partners.
* To make a contribution to the development of research in line with the centre for IMPACT mission.
* To develop and lead high-quality research funding applications.
* Contribute to disseminating research findings through research reports, peer-reviewed journals and presenting at national/international conferences.
* To support and develop public and patient involvement and engagement activities

### Skills, Experience & Qualifications needed

* First degree in public health, nutrition, or psychology
* Master (or PhD) in research methods, public health or nutrition
* Knowledge of mental health and public health nutrition to engage in high-quality research
* Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methodologies, including study design, intervention development, and co-design, with expertise in mixed methods (surveys, semi-structured interviews and focus groups)
* Experience in conducting research with the community, patients, carers or healthcare staff
* Research experience in an area that will complement and enhance the Centre's research strategy
* Excellent Academic writing skills in English, with high efficiency in writing reports, research protocols, papers, infographics and funding applications
* Highly developed communication skills to engage effectively with a wide-ranging audience, both orally and in writing, using a range of media
* Competency to conduct individual and collaborative research projects
* Ability to develop research objectives, projects and proposals for own and joint research
* Competency to present at conferences or exhibit work in appropriate events
* Experience in carrying out both independent and collaborative research
* Demonstrable experience in the co-production of research and participant involvement
* Commitment to social justice in health and healthcare