POSITION DESCRIPTION:

SECTION A: Position Context

Position Title	Health Research Data Programmer
Classification	RA1 - RA4 ($62,973-$73,766)
Centre	Centre for Population Health
Location	85 Commercial Road Melbourne
Effective Date	November 2016

Burnet Overview

Burnet Institute is a leading Australian medical research and public health organisation focused on improving the health of poor and vulnerable communities. The Institute's culture links innovative discovery-oriented research with development and humanitarian action. World-class laboratory and field-based research is integrated into multidisciplinary programs aimed at the prevention, detection and treatment of diseases of global significance. This unique approach allows the Institute to make a tangible and sustainable impact on health in both developed and developing countries.

The medical research and public health programs conducted by Burnet Institute encompass six key themes: infectious diseases, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, alcohol, other drugs and harm reduction and immunity, vaccines and immunisation.

The Institute also undertakes innovative epidemiological research, including surveillance and modelling complemented by participatory social research at international and regional levels, and with governments, civil society and communities in more than 40 countries.

Position Purpose:

The Burnet Institute implements novel, multidisciplinary scientific programs that use progressive epidemiology, high quality laboratory science, first-rate clinical and social research, and strong public health principles to address major health problems in the areas of HIV and other blood borne viruses (BBVs) including viral hepatitis, sexually transmissible infections (STIs), malaria, tuberculosis and drug and alcohol use. In order to understand prevalence and transmission of disease in the community, the Centre for Population Health has developed several local, national and international data based systems to monitor these diseases and also leads several behavioural and bio-behavioural surveys and prevalence studies both locally and in the Asia Pacific region.

The Australian Collaboration for Coordinated Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance of Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmitted Infections (ACCESS) is a national health surveillance network of blood borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections. ACCESS collates de-identified data from over one hundred sexual health clinics, general practice clinics, hospitals, community health services and pathology laboratories across Australia.

The Health Research Data Programmer is an exciting new position within the ACCESS project (www.accessproject.org.au) and the successful applicant will join a team of experienced epidemiologists and surveillance experts and data analysts. Working alongside a Data Manager, the Health Research Data Programmer will primarily develop and update in-house processes for data manipulation using SQL and STATA, and review how improvements might be made using alternative programming languages or tools.

The Health Research Data Programmer will also develop a data dissemination website to enable the provision of health research data to researchers nationally. The incumbent will work closely with our scientific experts to ensure consistency and allow comparability between studies. The role will involve working independently but also as part of a team. We are looking for individuals with advanced data manipulation/programming and analytic skills who show a passion and interest in public health.

Supervision Reporting Relationships:

This positions' supervisor/manager	Carol El-Hayek
Other positions reporting to this position	N/A

SECTION B: Key Responsibility Areas

The key responsibility areas (KRAs) are the major outputs for which the position is responsible and are not a comprehensive statement of the position activities.

	Key Responsibility Areas
1.	Manipulate and build datasets to support analyses through use of efficient SQL and STATA code
2.	Review data for quality and implement ongoing quality assurance processes for the data
3.	Develop and maintain documentation related to all data manipulation processes
4.	Development of a data dissemination website for a national disease monitoring program
5.	High-level consultation for long-term improvement of data manipulation processes and strategy
6.	Collaborate with study researchers about data generated by the studies
7.	Participate in regular meetings related to the ACCESS project and other related research
8.	Extra scope: data visualisation (probably web-based javascript, mobile website) for provision of data for health researchers around Australia

Occupational Health and Safety

The Burnet has a commitment to providing a safe and healthy workplace in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004. All staff are obliged to take all reasonable care to ensure that their actions do not place themselves or others at risk.

SECTION C: Key Selection Criteria

Qualifications	Essential/ Preferable
1. A relevant qualification in applied maths, applied biomedical sciences or health informatics disciplines and/or relevant experience	Essential

Experience / Knowledge / Attributes	
2. Demonstrated knowledge of technical challenges related to the collation of health related data in relation to data security, format migration, preservation, metadata, data retrieval	Essential
3. Database experience (medium size - millions of records) e.g. MySQL, Postgres, SQL server	Essential
4. Natural language/text processing experience in any major scripting language: e.g. Python/Ruby/R and statistical packages (STATA/R/SysStat/Numpy)	Essential
5. Demonstrated analytical and problem solving skills with an ability to quickly acquire new technological skills to resolve problems	Essential
6. Demonstrated capacity to work effectively and professionally with staff at all levels	Essential
7. Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing that includes detailed documentation of all work processes and protocols	Essential
8. Ability to manage time and multiple projects in a dynamic environment with a positive, flexible, and innovative attitude	Essential
9. Ability to work independently and as part of a team	Essential

Other Requirements

The Burnet Institute is a child safe organisation. The incumbent of this position may be required to undergo a Police Check or Working with Children Check as a condition of their employment.

For further information, please contact Carol El-Hayek

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