FINGERS® BRAIN HEALTH INSTITUTE

Do you want to work in an exciting and stimulating international environment, where the R&D is led by the world authority on dementia prevention, Professor Miia Kivipelto, and contribute to healthy brain aging?

The FINGERS Brain Health Institute (FBHI) is a Stockholm-based, non-profit organisation dedicated to the promotion of healthy brain aging and the prevention of dementia. We work on multiple fronts, from conducting original research and development, to facilitating collaboration between research institutes, through to rapid implementation in real-world settings. Our work with the WorldWide FINGERS (WW-FINGERS) Network involves hosting the Scientific Helpdesk, staffed with experts across various fields, to communicating with and aiding researchers within the network. We are also implementing a federated database system to facilitate the sharing and joint analysis of data. As part of our original research, we are currently initiating clinical trials into the effects of lifestyle modification on healthy aging. FBHI is also working with external collaborators to translate our research into actionable programs within communities. Alongside all our current work, we are continuing to expand into new projects.

Role

We are looking for an experienced Biostatistician for the project entitled "World-Wide FINGERS - first global network of multidomain dementia prevention trials: Data harmonization and data sharing effort". This 2-year project is funded by the Alzheimer's Disease Data Initiative (ADDI) in the US.

Contract type

Full time (100%) temporary position in Stockholm, Sweden, alternatively at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) in Helsinki, Finland, until September 2023.

Job description

The Biostatistician will be responsible for executing and implementing data analysis plans to facilitate the joint analysis of data collected within the WW-FINGERS Network. The biostatistician will also provide support for new clinical studies, such as power calculations,

conducted as part of FBHI's original research. Specific duties will fall into two main categories and include:

Optimization, harmonization, and joint analysis of data

- Aiding in the creation of data analysis plans, including experimental design, statistical methodology, and data requirements
- Spearheading the use of novel and computational data analysis methods
- Providing consultations to WW-FINGER member countries in developing data analysis plans for local studies, to maximize alignment within the network
- Advising on choice of statistical analysis strategies, reliability of measurements and identifiability of models, and interpretation and presentation of statistical results

Development of original clinical research

- Assisting in the preparation of study protocols and clinical documentations, clinical trial documents and reports, scientific abstracts, peer-reviewed manuscripts, and responses to requests from regulatory agencies, local Institutional Review Boards, and other health authorities

Essential formal requirements

The applicant is required to fulfil the following requirements to be considered eligible for the position:

- Have a professional level knowledge of the English language, both written and oral
- Be eligible to live and work within Sweden, alternatively within Finland, either through citizenship or residency status, at time of application and for the length of work contract

Qualifications/experience

Essential

The following qualifications and experience are considered essential to the role:

- A Master's degree or PhD in a related field (statistics, biostatistics, epidemiology etc), with experience in biostatistics
- At least 2 years of experience in advising on biostatistics as part of randomized clinical trials
- Experience of using various statistical software, such as STATA, R, SPSS, SAS, Mplus, etc

Desirable

The following qualifications and experience are considered beneficial to the role, but not essential:

- Understanding of topics related to brain health, aging, dementia, life sciences, neurology, geriatrics or other topics related to FBHI´s core mission
- Experience of collaborating or advising on projects across countries and cultures
- Understanding of multidomain clinical trials regarding dementia prevention
- Willingness to travel, if and when required
- Fluency in secondary languages, such as Swedish or Finnish, depending on the location

Personal characteristics and interpersonal skills

The following characteristics and interpersonal skills are deemed most suited for the role:

- A high level of responsibility, independence, and a positive, problem-solving attitude
- Proactive, quality driven and results-orientated
- Strong organisation and planning skills, including good methodologies for planning complex timelines
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Ability to work collaboratively and build strong working relationships across borders
- Excellent understanding of cultural differences and ability to work together with people from different countries and communicate in a culturally sensitive manner

Job offerings

The salary for the position will be based on the candidate's skills and level of experience. The contract length is determined by current 2-year funding but, should future funding become available there may be opportunities for extension, as FBHI is committed to long term research activities. Five weeks of vacation will be provided in addition to standard national holidays. Work outside normal Swedish office hours may be required as a function of the interactions with the global WW-FINGERS network involving more than 40 countries and ADDI in the US.

Equal opportunities

FBHI is an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from all candidates who fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria. The role may be open to flexible working, if requested and in discussion with the employer.

Are you interested?

If you want to know more about the position, please contact

- Markku Peltonen, +358-29524-8477, markku.peltonen@thl.fi
- Maris Hartmanis, +46-70-244 6320, maris.hartmanis@fbhi.se

Application process

To apply for the position, please send a completed application in pdf or Word format via email to careers@fbhi.se . A completed application should include:

- Current CV, no more than 3 pages
- Covering letter: including how your beliefs align with the FBHI's aims and message, why you believe this position is right for you, and skills and experience that you will bring to the position. Applicants should also indicate their start date availability for the position
- If from an academic background, you may include a publication list if you so choose

Further information may be required at later stages of the application process, this information will be requested when/if relevant. Unfortunately, due to the number of applications, personal feedback will not be provided to all applicants unless requested.