

CENTRE FOR HEALTH POLICY, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The **Centre for Health Policy (CHP)** is a South African health systems and policy research unit based in the School of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. CHP employs a multi-disciplinary group of public health and social scientists and offers a dynamic environment in which to conduct cutting-edge health systems and policy research that strongly encourages writing for publication. The Centre provides opportunities for engagement in South African health sector policy and as well as international academic consortia. CHP has an established national and international reputation. Website: <http://www.wits.ac.za/chp>

The following post has become available:

RESEARCHER / SENIOR RESEARCHER

The Centre for Health Policy is a member of *South African Initiative for rapid evidence syntheses and systematic reviews on health policies and systems (SAI)* in collaboration with Medical Research Council-SA and the WHO Alliance for Health Policy and Systems. The initiative aims to build capacity to conduct rapid reviews and syntheses of evidence in the field of health systems and policy, and to promote the use of such reviews amongst public health decision makers, practitioners, researchers and civil society. SAI is mandated to deliver a rapid evidence synthesis service to clients who need rapid, high quality syntheses that are easily accessible and translatable for uptake by policy makers and lobbyists.

We are looking for a researcher to work on this exciting project. The appointment will be on a fixed term contract, renewable depending on availability of funding.

The successful candidate will be tasked with:

- conducting rapid syntheses (all tasks from negotiation with the client through to completion of the product), including
- conducting database searches and grey literature searches
- upload and manage searches on electronic platforms like Covidence
- extracting data and drafting a narrative synthesis

Requirements:

The successful candidate will be highly motivated and will:

- hold a Masters in public health, epidemiology, sociology, political science, development studies, health economics; or equivalent Master's degree
- have excellent writing skills (proof will be required)
- be able work under pressure
- be able to work well in multi-disciplinary, multi-country teams.
- be able to apply their minds to complex questions and the complexities of health systems implementation

- have evidence of research, scholarly ability and output. (10 DOHET/ISI- accredited publications are required for a senior researcher appointment).

The following will be advantageous:

- have sound experience in working on systematic reviews, including Cochrane reviews
- have a good grasp of both qualitative and quantitative design and methods
- have very good critical appraisal skills for both qualitative and quantitative research (a large part of the job will be reading and judging if something is in or out, based on that reading)
- Experience of contributing to policy development and/or implementation
- Research supervision an advantage (researcher appointment); or evidence of teaching experience and postgraduate supervision (senior researcher)

Training will be provided in synthesis methods. There are opportunities to pursue a PhD within the School of Public Health, University of the Witwatersrand if the successful candidate is interested.

Enquiries (only): Prof Jane Goudge, email jane.goudge@gmail.com.

Applications will ONLY be accepted through the Wits IRecruitment online system

The remuneration package would be commensurate with experience and is subject to the University's regulations.

Closing date: 20 October 2017

To apply:

Please submit the following documents on <http://www.wits.ac.za/vacancies/> or for internal applicants <https://irec.wits.ac.za>

- a covering letter outlining your interest and suitability for this position
- a detailed CV, including contact details
- names, addresses and contact details of 3 referees whom may be contacted
- certified copies of degrees/diplomas
- certified copy of ID (or passport and visa)
- a short piece of recent written work undertaken solely or predominantly by yourself

The University is committed to employment equity. Preference will be given to appointable applicants from the designated South African groups in terms of the relevant employment equity plans and policies of the University. The University retains the right not to make an appointment, to re-advertise and to verify all information provided by candidates. Please note that correspondence will only be entered into with shortlisted candidates.