



<b>School/ Research Centre:</b>	School of Psychology
<b>Post title:</b>	Postdoctoral Researcher in Cancer Screening Behaviour
<b>Level on framework:</b>	Level 1
<b>Post duration:</b>	11-month full-time fixed term Contract

### **Dublin City University**

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

### **Overview of the department**

The School of Psychology is an ambitious and research-intensive School in the Faculty of Science and Health. Established in 2019, DCU's School of Psychology is composed of experienced and dedicated staff with expertise in a broad range of areas within the field of psychology. The School brings together our flagship BSc in Psychology, which has been running since 2010, the new BSc in Psychology and Mathematics and BSc in Psychology and Disruptive Technologies, a distance education level 8 psychology programme, and our suite of postgraduate courses including the MSc Psychology (Conversion) and the MSc Psychology and Wellbeing. It continues to build on our longstanding research activity and collaborations, and its thriving community engagement. The School is student-centred, research-intensive, globally engaged, collaborative and inclusive. It offers

an innovative and exciting environment in which to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies in psychology and to undertake cutting-edge research.

### **Role profile**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified individual for a full-time, 11-month fixed-term position as a postdoctoral researcher at Dublin City University. This research position is funded by the National Screening Service and is available from March 2023.

The purpose of this role is to conduct a specified programme of research under the supervision of the Principal Investigator (Dr Nick Clarke). The work will be performed in accordance with the university's research integrity policy and all other relevant policies.

The post offers an opportunity to join an interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration in colorectal cancer screening uptake research between Dublin City University (DCU), Newcastle University, and the National Screening Service.

Colorectal cancer (or bowel cancer) is the second most common cancer diagnosed in females and the third most common in males. While national population-based screening programmes have been in place for a number of years, uptake among women (44%) has lagged behind other organised screening programmes such as breast (72%) and cervical cancer screening (79%). This research aims to explore why specific groups of the women choose not to engage in the national BowelScreen programme, with a specific focus on at risk and marginalised women. The project aims to build upon previous research on uptake in cancer screening and to identify decision-making processes in the screening pathway, with the aim of developing interventions to improve uptake.

The postdoctoral researcher will report to, and work under the supervision of the Principal Investigator. The postdoctoral researcher will be expected to carry out the duties listed below, along with any additional duties required by your Principal Investigator.

### **Duties & Responsibilities**

The postdoctoral researcher will:

- Take responsibility for conducting a specified programme of research on barriers, facilitators, behaviours and attitudes of women from different socio-economic cohorts, in relation to their decision-making process and non-participation in BowelScreen;
- Facilitate Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) in the research process;
- Assist with and manage the research ethics applications;
- Assist with and manage all aspect of the research design and fieldwork, including; literature reviewing, qualitative topic guide design, participant recruitment, study participant administration, conducting qualitative interviews, data management and analysis;
- Assist with the publication and dissemination of research outputs through preparation of articles for peer-reviewed journals and presentation at relevant conferences;
- Assist the Principal Investigator in identifying and developing future research and funding initiatives;
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School or Research Centre, or the University;

- Liaise with both internal and external stakeholders including partner and funding agencies, research and academic partners/collaborators
- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary including regular funding agency reports and internal reports;
- Carry out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

#### **Qualifications**

Individuals will have a PhD in a relevant area such as psychology, nursing, social science, health services research, allied health disciplines or related disciplines relevant to the research topic.

#### **Knowledge and experience**

Individuals for this position will:

- Have knowledge of a research discipline, with a focus on qualitative research skills, and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline;
- Have experience in health related research, recruiting patients and systematic and scoping reviews;
- Demonstrate an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications;
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the policy, practices and procedures that are relevant to the role. This will include knowledge and understanding of Research Ethics;
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students.
- Have excellent communication, interpersonal and organisational skills,
- Have the ability to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines
- Have the ability to work effectively as part of an interdisciplinary, multi-centre team
- Demonstrate an ability to manage self, time, and own resources to enable a high level of personal effectiveness
- Demonstrate a commitment to develop own transferable skills, profile and reputation to advance own career beyond the end of the contract period.

#### **Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:**

- **Discipline knowledge and Research skills** – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline
- **Understanding the Research Environment** – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications
- **Communicating Research** – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students
- **Managing & Leadership skills** - Demonstrates the potential to manage a research project including the supervision of undergraduate students

**Essential Training**

The post holder will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.