

## **ETHICS OF RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIALS**

### Postdoctoral Associate

#### About Western University

Western University ranks as one of Canada's top research-intensive universities. From fundamental to applied discovery and other scholarly activities, its scholars advance knowledge that provides tangible benefits for the economic, social, health and cultural development of citizens in London, in Canada and around the world. Western Research supports scholars through collaboration, communication, and service. Western University and its affiliate colleges received more than \$267 million in research funding over the past year.

#### About the Role

The [Department of Medicine](#) at Western University has an opening for a [Postdoctoral Associate](#) in the Ethics of Randomized Controlled Trials.

The purpose of the position is to assist [Prof. Charles Weijer](#) with a research program at Western University and the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute to update the [Ottawa Statement on the Ethical Design and Conduct of Cluster Randomized Trials](#), the leading international ethics guidance for this trial design. Cluster randomized trials evaluate interventions by assigning groups of people, like communities, hospitals or schools, to different interventions. Because of their design, these trials raise complex ethical issues related to gatekeepers, benefit-harm analysis, and informed consent.

The successful applicant will join a dynamic international team comprising over 30 biostatisticians, patient and public partners, philosophers, and trialists from four continents. The goals of this [research program](#) are to update the Ottawa Statement; develop implementation guidance documents for priority health settings; and create a research agenda to enable researchers to work collectively on unresolved ethical issues.

The applicant's responsibilities will include leading ethical analyses on topics related to the research program, participating in related empirical studies, such as systematic reviews, and supporting the work of the international team in the production of consensus ethics guidelines.

The salary for the postdoctoral associate position is \$55,000 per year plus [benefits](#). This position is full time with a one-year contract (with the possibility a one-year renewal) offered. The anticipated start date is October 1, 2024.

Required qualifications for the position include:

- PhD in philosophy (area of specialization ethics or bioethics), bioethics, or epidemiology;
- Knowledge of research ethics and regulation;
- Experience in ethical analysis;

- Excellent and demonstrated English writing skills;
- Time management skills and ability to manage and prioritize multiple projects;
- Flexibility to accommodate periodic demanding deadlines;
- Ability to take initiative and work independently;
- Computer literacy and knowledge of software packages including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint; and,
- Superior communication skills with members of the interdisciplinary team.

Preferred qualifications include:

- Publication record in areas related to research ethics, clinical trials or health research;
- Knowledge of clinical trial design and methods; and,
- Experience in quantitative methods, e.g., systematic review.

Individuals ready to meet the challenge of this position should submit a focused cover letter, curriculum vitae, and the names and contact details of three references to Dr. Kylie Tingley (Project Manager; [ktingley@ohri.ca](mailto:ktingley@ohri.ca)) prior to August 30, 2024. We thank all applicants for their interest. However, only those invited for an interview will be contacted.

*Western University Values Diversity*

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Western University is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process.