Les meilleurs soins pour la vie The Best Care for Life

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tuberculosis Diagnostic Research

McGill University & McGill University Health Centre – Montreal, Canada September 2012

TB Research in Montreal

McGill University is Canada's leading research university, ranked as one of the top 25 universities in the world. McGill has a large, active, diverse research group on tuberculosis, encompassing several disciplines, including epidemiology, clinical research, public health, genomics, diagnostics, molecular epidemiology, health economics, modeling, sociology and international health. Members of the research group have a strong track record for innovative biomedical, clinical, epidemiologic and social research. The TB research group is funded by a number of sources e.g., Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Fonds de la recherche du Québec en santé (FRQS), EDCTP, Grand Challenges Canada and other public and private agencies. More information about the TB group can be found at: Pai Tuberculosis Research Group, http://www.mcgill.ca/recru and http://molepi.mcgill.ca.

Diagnostic Research

The McGill group has been actively involved in TB diagnostic research, focused mainly on clinical and field evaluation of new or improved tools such as IGRAs, GeneXpert, LED microscopy, and antigen detection tests. The group has helped create website resources such as http://tbevidence.org, www.teachepi.org, www.bcgatlas.org and www.tstin3d.com, and actively contributed to WHO, Stop TB Partnership, PHAC and other policy initiatives. The group is also actively working on novel methodological, statistical and modeling approaches to diagnostics research. Ongoing work includes development of rapid tests for EPTB, evaluation of the clinical impact and cost-effectiveness of molecular diagnostics, modeling of TB diagnostics, and assessing barriers to the use of POC tests. The group also organizes Advanced Courses in TB Diagnostic Research every year.



Fellowship

Applications are invited from recent PhD or MD graduates for a one year, full-time fellowship, starting September 2012. The salary range is \$45,000 - \$55,000 per annum, depending on qualifications and research experience. Extended Health and Dental Insurance will be made available through the Post-Graduate Student's Society. Depending on funding availability, the fellowship may be extended by another year.



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Eligibility and Requirements

Applicants must have:

- ✓ a recent MD (with relevant specialization) or PhD degree with a background in epidemiology, clinical research, respiratory research, infectious diseases or public health (as per McGill regulations, individuals whose most recent degree (PhD or MD) was obtained over 5 years ago are not eligible for postdoctoral positions)
- ✓ an excellent academic record, with good quantitative, verbal and communication skills
- ✓ research experience, particularly in tuberculosis diagnostic research
- √ a record of publication (a good publication record in TB diagnostics is required)
- ✓ experience with statistical software such as STATA
- ✓ a research program development plan that would be highly competitive in provincial and national funding competitions for postdoctoral awards
- ✓ fluency in English (verbal and written); fluency in French is desirable.

Responsibilities

The postdoctoral fellow will function as a junior investigator, participating fully in teaching, research and related scholarly activities and would be encouraged to apply for independent salary and research funding. Specifically, the fellow would act as a junior investigator on an implementation science project aimed at identifying barriers to POC testing in India and South Africa, and development of target product profiles (TPPs) for point-of-care (POC) TB testing. The fellow will provide oversight at the collaborating international sites, conduct systematic reviews and modeling studies, write summary reports, conduct data management and analysis, prepare manuscripts, assist in writing grant proposals, and conduct methodological/statistical projects on diagnostic research. Travel abroad will be required.

<u>Important note:</u> This is **NOT** a laboratory-based (bench science) fellowship. The focus is on applied implementation research in clinical and field settings, use of novel methodological and statistical approaches, and evidence-based TB policies and practices. Applicants interested in basic science research on diagnostics will not be eligible for this fellowship.

Application Procedures

Interested applicants should submit an **application via email**, consisting of a cover letter (including a statement of research interests and prior experience in TB diagnostic research), *Curriculum Vitae*, contact information of 2 relevant referees, along with 3 sample TB publications to:

Madhukar Pai, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Dept. of Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Occupational Health
Member, Respiratory Epidemiology & Clinical Research Unit, Montreal Chest Institute
McGill University
1020 Pine Avenue West

Montreal, Canada H3A 1A2 Email: madhukar.pai@mcgill.ca

Website: http://www.medicine.mcgill.ca/epidemiology/pai/

Please contact Dr. Pai (via email) for further information. This position will be advertised until a suitable candidate is identified. Information on postdoctoral fellowship regulations, including information on healthcare and benefits, at McGill University is available at: http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdoc/Date of posting: June 1, 2012

