
Merck US Outcomes Research Contract Position

Background Information

The hiring department within Merck (U.S. Outcomes Research) is dedicated to conducting scientific studies and evaluations focused on health technology assessment, health policy research, and quality of care, including medication adherence. Our research agenda is driven by the needs of both Merck and our customers, including payers and health care providers, with the overall goal of developing programs to improve patient outcomes. Examples of current research activities include the development of tools to predict patients at risk of medication non-adherence, understanding drivers of medication non-adherence, assessment of various interventions to improve medication adherence, and assessment of the impact of different incentives to change provider and patient behaviors.

Responsibilities

The candidate will be expected to collaborate on scientific studies and projects focused on medication adherence to chronic drug therapy. Specific responsibilities would include: 1) conducting systematic reviews of published scientific literature and providing summaries or critical analyses of the extant literature; 2) identifying potential research questions or hypotheses based on gaps in existing literature; 3) analyzing large extant databases (such as pharmacy claims data) to answer relevant research questions; 4) providing input in designing and conducting studies to evaluate the impact of interventions on medication adherence; 5) writing study protocols, abstracts, and other communications for internal and external stakeholders; and 6) collaborating with other scientific staff to co-author manuscripts.

This role requires excellent written and oral communication skills, the ability to work in a matrix environment, a thorough understanding of the U.S. health care system and the medication adherence landscape, the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and meet deadlines reliably, and the ability to conduct independent research without significant oversight. Research capabilities include conceptualization, design, protocol development, implementation, data analysis, report writing, and presentation/publication of results. This position does not involve personnel management.

Qualifications

The candidate must have at least a Master's degree (Ph.D. preferred) in a discipline related to quality of care or adherence (Health Services Research, Outcomes Research, Health Economics, Medical Sociology, Behavioral Medicine, Population Health, Public Health, etc). A clinical degree is preferred, but not necessary.

Candidates must have a minimum of three years relevant research experience in a Health Services Research or Outcomes Research setting and a demonstrated track record of scientific research and publication in peer-reviewed journals in areas related to quality of care and/or adherence. Specific research experience should include both design and execution of research projects including programming, statistical analysis, and interpretation of results. It is preferable but not required that candidates have clinical experience in medicine, nursing, or pharmacy.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please forward your resume to Margaret Mahon (margaret.mahon@merck.com).