



## POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Division of Family Medicine  
Department of Family, Community and  
Emergency Care

Faculty of Health Sciences



**FaCE**  
Department of Family, Community  
and Emergency Care

**Postdoctoral Fellowship in a National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)-funded project:**  
[Improving the core functions of primary care in sub-Saharan Africa.](#)

### PURPOSE:

This research project focuses on adapting the Primary Care Assessment Tool (PCAT) for sub-Saharan Africa to measure and improve the core functions of primary care, as outlined by the World Health Organization (WHO). Recognising the critical role of primary care in healthcare systems, particularly in resource-limited settings, this study aims to develop a multilingual, accessible PCAT that enables countries to assess and enhance key aspects such as accessibility, continuity, comprehensiveness, and coordination of care. Conducted across eleven sub-Saharan African countries, the study will engage local researchers and stakeholders to evaluate primary care performance, compare rural and urban disparities, and inform targeted interventions. Over three years, the project will refine the PCAT for regional use, then assessments in participating countries, and finally, stakeholder engagement to drive improvements. The anticipated impact includes strengthening primary healthcare systems, informing policy decisions, and potentially influencing WHO recommendations on measuring primary care performance.

### CALL FOR APPLICATION AND ACADEMIC CRITERIA:

We invite suitably qualified candidates to apply for a postdoctoral research fellowship.

#### Requirements:

- A PhD acquired within the last three years in either Family Medicine, Public Health, Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, or related fields pertinent to primary care and primary healthcare.
- Proven ability to communicate effectively.
- Capability to collaborate successfully and work well in a team.
- Strong organisational skills and capacity to work autonomously, under pressure, and to meet deadlines.
- Evidence of publications and research output would be advantageous.
- Experience in postgraduate research supervision is desirable.

### CONDITIONS OF THE AWARD:

- This is a two-year position (with a possible third-year extension, pending available funding and progress made). Annual renewal depends on progress, and agreed outcomes must be met (with six-monthly review meetings). The commencement of the fellowship is preferably as soon as possible.
- The successful candidate will be expected to contribute substantially to the research project.
- The successful candidate may be required to participate in departmental activities such as limited teaching and supervision duties, limited to 12 hours per week, as part of their professional development.
- The successful candidate must adhere to the University's [approved policies, procedures, and practices for the postdoctoral sector](#), one of which being resident in Cape Town (no relocation costs are included).

### VALUE AND TENURE:

The postdoctoral fellowship is valued at R320,000 annually and is linked to the PI's NIHR grant.

The postdoctoral fellowship does not include fringe benefits or a travel allowance. The fellowship is compliant with the SARS rules for tax exemption.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Applications must be emailed to the project manager, Ms Lebogang Montewa. They must include a full CV, list of publications, conference presentations, postgraduate supervision experience, funding record, and contact details of two contactable academic referees, one of whom must be the PhD supervisor.

Further information can be obtained from Ms Lebogang Montewa (email: [Lebogang.montewa@uct.ac.za](mailto:Lebogang.montewa@uct.ac.za); Tel +27 21 650 4843) or Associate Professor Klaus von Pressentin ([klaus.vonpressentin@uct.ac.za](mailto:klaus.vonpressentin@uct.ac.za)).

**Closing date:** 2 March 2025

**Website:** <https://health.uct.ac.za/home/family-community-and-emergency-care>

*UCT is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets in accordance with the Employment Equity Plan of the University and its Employment Equity goals and targets. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at [Employment equity | University of Cape Town \(uct.ac.za\)](#).*

*UCT reserves the right not to appoint. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.*