



The Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI-KNAW) has a vacancy for a Postdoc researcher (1.0 fte)

“The impact of lifestyle factors on past and future trends in socio-economic inequalities in mortality”

Job description

Inequalities in mortality between socio-economic groups are a persistent challenge for society. The recent widening of socio-economic mortality inequalities in modern welfare states, despite major efforts to reduce them, has raised important questions regarding what is driving these past trends, what can be expected for the future, and to what extent policy measures can revert the trend.

The post-doc will make major contributions to answering these questions, as part of the VICI research project by Prof. Fanny Janssen which focuses on the role of smoking, excessive alcohol consumption and obesity on past and future trends in socio-economic inequalities in mortality. This research project was recently awarded funding by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), as part of their Innovational Research Incentives Scheme.

Given the division of labour within the project, the post-doc is expected to (i) examine the role of smoking, (ii) to co-supervise the two PhD students within the project who will study the role of alcohol and obesity, respectively, (iii) to study the combined impact of the three lifestyle factors relative to other determinants, and (iv) to assess the responsiveness of future socio-economic mortality inequalities to preventive health policies and societal change. For this purpose, prevalence and mortality data by educational level for selected European countries will need to be used.

The post-doc will write scientific articles, publishable in high-quality international refereed journals, and will co-supervise the two PhD students on the project. The postdoc will closely collaborate with all members of the research team, interact with (inter)national stakeholders, will present the research findings at (inter)national conferences, and will play a pivotal role in organizational matters related to the research project.

Requirements

Candidates should have:

- A recently completed PhD in a relevant discipline (e.g. population studies, demography, epidemiology, health sciences);
- Proven affinity and expertise in the research field of health/mortality in the European context;
- Strong analytical capacity
- Experience with the application of techniques used to study past trends in socio-economic mortality inequalities (see Mackenbach et al. 2016 BMJ), and/or with the analysis of individually linked data (from a longitudinal mortality follow-up design).
- Very good academic writing skills, reflected in publications in high quality international peer-reviewed academic journals in the field
- Proven ability to both collaborate in a research team and to take the lead in organizing collaborative work, and to work independently.
- Good supervisory skills
- Excellent written and oral command of the English language

Conditions of employment

The appointment will be for a period of five years, starting October 1, 2020, with a trial period of two months. A psychological assessment may be part of the selection procedure. The gross monthly salary will be between € 3.123,- and € 4.654,- (Minimum scale 10-3 CAO-NU; Maximum scale 11 CAO-NU; based on a fulltime job of 38 hours). Benefits include pension contribution, annual holiday premium of 8% and an end-of-year premium of 8.3%. Non-Dutch nationals may be eligible for a substantial tax break (30% ruling).

Employer

The Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) is a research institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and affiliated with the University of Groningen. NIDI is located in the center of The Hague. The staff of the institute consists of about 50 persons, mostly researchers.

Place of work

NIDI, Lange Houtstraat 19, 2511CV, The Hague.

Additional information

For additional information you may contact prof. dr. Fanny Janssen (email: janssen@nidi.nl or phone: +31 70 3565242).

Application procedure

Candidates are invited to submit their application in English. Applications must include, in a single PDF file:

- A motivation letter.
- A full curriculum vitae, including list of publications.
- Names and contact details of two referees.
- An overview of university grades.

The closing date for submitting your application is **May 13, 2020**. Please send your application to hr@nidi.nl.

Interviews (most likely via Skype) will take place in the last week of May.

Any acquisition further to this advertisement will not be appreciated.
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