Advert for a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Division of Allergology and Clinical Immunology

A post-doctoral position is being offered as part of the SAMRC award led by Professor Jonny Peter, Head of the Division of Allergology and Clinical Immunology at Groote Schuur Hospital, University of Cape Town and the Allergy and Immunology unit, UCT Lung Institute.

Post-doctoral supervisor: Prof Jonny Peter

Background

This post-doctoral position is part of an SAMRC-funded project aimed at improving the diagnosis and management of delayed drug hypersensitivity in TB/HIV endemic settings. The research leverages multiomic approaches to investigate the genomics and mechanisms underlying severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCAR) in persons living with HIV, with a focus on first-line anti-TB drugs. The project supports the completion of several initiatives from a broader 5-year NIH award.

Scope of the research

The successful candidate will contribute to understanding SCAR pathogenesis through multiomic analyses and assist in developing an AI-based imaging method for early diagnosis of SCAR. This innovative tool aims to facilitate early detection at the primary care level, enhancing patient outcomes and treatment safety.

Conditions of appointment:

1. South African citizens or individuals from other African countries with status or valid visa that allows them to study.
2. This is an in-person position.
3. 1-year full-time position
4. R590 321 pa
5. Post-doc will enroll at UCT.
6. Postdoctoral research fellowships are only available to individuals who have achieved the doctoral degree within the past 5 years.
7. Applicants may not previously have held full-time permanent professional or comprehensive academic posts.

The ideal candidate will hold a PhD in biomedical sciences or a related field, with skills that align closely with the demands of this project. They should possess strong data analytics capabilities, particularly in analyzing omics data such as proteomics and transcriptomics. Additionally, experience in developing and training AI-imaging models is essential, as the role involves creating innovative diagnostic tools to facilitate early detection of SCAR. A solid foundation in these areas is critical to contribute effectively to the research objectives.

The post-doctoral fellow will play a central role in all phases of the project, including project management, data analysis, and dissemination of findings through manuscript development and grant writing. They will be involved in the comprehensive execution of the research, ensuring that objectives are met efficiently while contributing to scientific publications and funding proposals to support ongoing and future work.

Advantageous:

Candidates with experience in project management and human research will be viewed favorably. Previous involvement in managing research projects or clinical studies demonstrates the ability to oversee complex workflows and coordinate multidisciplinary teams. Human research experience is also advantageous, as it provides insight into clinical settings and patient interactions, which are valuable for translating research findings into practical healthcare solutions.

Application procedure:
Please send through a letter of application stating areas of expertise and research interests, a letter of application, a full CV, copies of academic transcripts, and the names of two referees or letters of reference to Wisahl Wallace (wisahl.wallace@uct.ac.za) by 31 March 2026

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to cancel incomplete applications, to affect changes to the conditions of the Fellowship and/or to make no awards at all.