

Postdoctoral Fellowship in TB related mental health and health related quality of life in children

Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC)
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University
Tygerberg Campus, Cape Town, South Africa

Fellowship Overview

We invite applications for a Postdoctoral Fellowship focused TB related mental health and health related quality of life in children. This opportunity is hosted by the Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC).

This postdoctoral fellowship is tailored for a driven researcher committed to advancing our understanding of the TB related mental health and health related quality of life in children. Understanding the psycho-social long-term outcomes of children affected by TB is a growing field of interest. This includes work on mental health and well-being, and also a specific focus on health-related quality of life in general. The successful candidate will help determine the impact of TB on long-term health and well-being in children with the ultimate goal of improving health outcomes in high-burden, resource-limited settings.

Roles and Responsibilities

The successful candidate will work closely with senior investigators, with a research focus on TB related mental health and health related quality of life in children. Core duties include:

- **Research Execution:** Lead social science work, including mental health and health-related-quality of life in all paediatric TB studies and children affected by similar respiratory illnesses.
- **Scientific Innovation:** Apply integrative thinking to explore ways of understanding post-TB life and well-being in children better.
- **Mentorship and Collaboration:** Co-supervise postgraduate students and collaborate with a multidisciplinary team of clinicians, social-scientists, and other researchers.
- **Publication and Dissemination:** Prepare scientific manuscripts, present at national and international conferences, and contribute to fellowship-relevant outputs.
- **Grant Development:** Assist in securing future funding by contributing to grant applications and the development of new project ideas.

Requirements and Qualifications

The ideal candidate will meet the following requirements:

- PhD in social science (obtained within the last 5 years).
- Proven experience in paediatric TB and well-being.
- 3-5 years' experience in paediatric clinical research.
- Up to date GCP certification.
- Familiarity with mixed methods analysis.
- A track record of peer-reviewed publications and involvement in multidisciplinary research teams.
- Strong communication, project management, and problem-solving skills.

Fellowship and Tenure

- **Duration:** Two years, with renewal in the second-year contingent upon performance and progress.
- **Funding:** A competitive, tax-free postdoctoral fellowship stipend as per Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences guidelines.

- **Location:** Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg Campus, Cape Town, South Africa — 20 minutes from the Cape Town city centre.

Application and Enquiries

Interested candidates are invited to submit the following documents to Ms Sterna Brand via email sbrand@sun.ac.za with the subject line: **Application: Postdoc in post TB life and well-being in children**

- Motivation letter outlining your research interests and suitability for this fellowship
- A full CV, including academic qualifications, publications, and relevant research experience
- Contact details for three referees (one of whom should be your PhD supervisor)
- Prospective candidates are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the field and SU-IRG's track record

In the case of current doctoral candidates, a supervisor letter confirming submission or expected date of completion must be provided

Closing date: 17 June 2025

Commencement date: As soon as possible or by mutual agreement.

Contact

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