

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	<b>Research Officer</b>
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	<b>RO1-3</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	<b>Senior Group Leader</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Herston</b>

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### POSITION OBJECTIVES

The Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory has identified genetic risk factors for a range of neuropsychiatric conditions, including substance use disorders, schizophrenia, depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, and Alzheimer's disease. Our current work focuses on translating genetic findings to clinically useful applications. The two key areas of research include: 1) Obtaining an improved understanding of relations between psychiatric disorders and symptoms through phenotypic and genetic modelling; and 2) Identifying more effective treatment for mental health disorders through the identification of compounds that target genetic risk factors.

The successful candidate will join this highly productive team as a postdoctoral researcher. You will have the opportunity to pursue your own research interests, which are aligned with one or both of the key areas of research as defined above.

The Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory offers an inclusive, supportive, and positive work environment.

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### ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute is a statutory body under the *Queensland Institute of Medical Research Act (1945)*. QIMR Berghofer proudly serves the people of Queensland with better health and wellbeing through impactful medical research. Our collaborative research programs address the foremost health challenges of our time. Our research responds to health challenges arising from social and environmental factors and aims to advance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health equity.

QIMR Berghofer has a vision to lead the way to significant innovation in health outcomes, nationally and globally. We are committed to supporting ground-breaking research discoveries, achieving sustainability and conducting impactful research.

The Institute focuses its research within four key Programs:

- Cancer Research
- Infection & Inflammation
- Mental Health & Neuroscience
- Population Health

Our Professional Services are organised into departments that provide specialist support for the conduct of internationally competitive research programs and projects. These include People and Culture; Business Development; Finance & Administration; Information & Facilities; Corporate

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Affairs and Fundraising; Scientific Services; Legal; Research Governance and Funding; Corporate Risk, Governance and Compliance and Strategic Planning.

QIMR Berghofer promotes a *Working Better Together* operating model, recognising that whilst the purpose of the Institute is medical research, and the contribution of researchers is key, it cannot be done without the work of our highly-skilled professional staff. It recognises that we are all here to facilitate the same purpose – *Better health and wellbeing through impactful medical research*. *Working Better Together* is underpinned by the shared understanding and application of our values:

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Accountability

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## REPORTING AND RELATIONSHIPS

The postdoctoral researcher reports to Professor Eske Derks (Senior Group Leader) and is a member of the Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory.

The Research Officer works closely with students and staff of The Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory.

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## PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

### **Leadership**

- Contribute collaboratively to The Translational Neurogenomics Laboratory and help build the research program.
- Demonstrate willingness to work as a team
- Supervision of students

### **Performance**

- Develop statistical and computational approaches within statistical genetics
- Apply genetic analyses within large scaled datasets, including UK Biobank, All of Us, and results from the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium and Million Veteran Program
- Contribute to the supervision of Undergraduate and PhD students
- Conduct their own research project as determined with the Senior Group Leader funding the work

### **Compliance**

- Model and promote excellence and integrity, adhering to the highest quality and ethical standards
- Ensure work practices comply with the requirements of the Work Health and Safety Act, related legislative requirements and the Institute's Work Health & Safety (WH&S) policies and procedures

## KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

### **Essential**

- A PhD degree in Statistics/Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, Computer Science, genetic epidemiology, Psychology, or other relevant discipline with a strong quantitative research background

- Demonstrated record of achievement in:
  - Experience with statistical genetic analyses, preferably in the field of mental health
  - Disseminating research findings in peer-reviewed journals
- Excellent communication, organizational, and analytical skills
- Interest in mental health research and a desire to further a career in science
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team in a collaborative research environment

***Desirable***

- Experience with participating in national or international research consortia
- Some grant writing experience

QIMR Berghofer also offers:

- Salary Packaging
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Stimulating work setting focussed on cutting-edge medical research
- Supportive/collaborative team environment
- Parental leave provisions