



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT
POTCHEFSTROOM CAMPUS

Postdoctoral fellowship in early cardiovascular disease development in South African children - 2017

A postdoctoral position is available at the *Hypertension in Africa Research Team (HART)* within the Faculty of Health Sciences of the North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa. Potchefstroom is located approximately 150 km from Johannesburg.

As the name of our research group implies, our broad research focus is the understanding of the development of hypertension in the black South African population. Our research unit is a Center of Excellence at the North-West University and also hosts the Medical Research Council Extramural Unit for Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease.

Various research sub-programmes exist within our clinical research setting, including cardiovascular function (such as large vessel arterial stiffness and retinal hemodynamics), lifestyle exposures (including psychosocial stress, obesity, diet, physical activity and socio-economic status), infectious diseases (specifically the cardiovascular effects of HIV-infection) and resultant target organ damage (echocardiography, intima-media thickness, renal function).

This position is for the ExAMIN Youth SA study which is a branch of a similar study conducted in Basel, Switzerland in collaboration with Prof Henner Hanssen. We will investigate vascular (both micro and macro blood vessels) measures, physical fitness, nutrition, and urinalysis. Training will also be provided on retinal microvascular imaging, pulse wave velocity and blood pressure monitoring.

This position is available for an initial period of 1 year. Renewal may be considered for up to three years contingent on satisfactory progress. A tax-free annual bursary is offered at the level equivalent to a junior lecturer/medical scientist plus R20 000 per annum for research expenses. Eligible candidates can apply for additional funds from the South African National Research Foundation (<https://nrfs submission.nrf.ac.za/nrfmkii/>). In addition, a one off payment of up to R20 000 is available to reimburse relocation costs to Potchefstroom for candidates needing to relocate.

The successful candidate will have to comply with the following requirements:

- A PhD-degree (Medical Sciences, Physiology, Nutrition or Sport Sciences) or equivalent qualification with emphasis on *cardiovascular physiology* - obtained within the last 5 years;
- Knowledge of and experience in research within the field of cardiovascular physiology or a closely related field. Experience in the area of clinical research will serve as recommendation;
- Excellent people and communication skills in English;
- Competency in statistical analysis.

Applications for this position must be done in writing and should include a cover letter and detailed CV. The position could be filled as soon as possible.

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For more information, see: <http://health-sciences.nwu.ac.za/hart>