Health Services Research & Development at the Veterans Administration in Seattle, is in search of statistically minded folks to join our team. See full job posting below. I find the work to be interesting and fulfilling. Note that the hiring process takes 5-6 months (average). If you're interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Alex Kloehn [alexander.kloehn@va.gov].

Job Posting - Data Analyst

As a data analyst, you will work in a multidisciplinary research team on projects evaluating the value of a wide range of health services initiatives. Previous projects have focused on non-pharmacological treatments for chronic pain, approaches for managing opioid-use disorder, care for Veterans with HIV, and studies optimizing behavioral interventions including cancer screening, weight loss and smoking cessation. Studies include both prospective data collection for clinical trial participants with sample sizes of several hundred or thousands of individuals, and large retrospective analyses of electronic health record (EHR) data with sample sizes of 5-10+ million individuals. This position is based within the Health Services Research & Development Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value Driven Care (HSRD-COIN) at VA Puget Sound in Seattle.

Key Duties

- Write SQL and R code to extract, manage, and analyze data from EHR databases.
- Perform real-time queries in the EHR to identify patients for participation in surveys and other study activities about the experience of recent care activities.
- Prepare data for analysis and data visualizations using R, or similar tools.
- Work with a collaborative team to ensure data quality, accuracy, and reproducibility.
- Produce documentation of processes (i.e., maintaining of data dictionaries).
- Learn and apply statistical techniques for evaluation of observational cohort studies and pragmatic clinical trials.
- Participate in manuscript and report preparation for publication in peer-reviewed journals and for submission to sponsoring agencies.

Qualifications and Skills

VA pay scales are based on education and experience. Candidates will have:

- Two or more years of analytic experience, ideally in a healthcare or related biomedical setting
- Masters-level degree in statistics, biostatistics, economics, informatics, health services, epidemiology, computer science or closely related field.
- (Bachelors-level degree in quantitative/science field may be considered with significant additional research experience)

Desired skills:

- Excellent written and spoken communication skills.
- The ability to work effectively in a dynamic team setting.
- Problem-solving in a complex work environment.
The ideal candidate is someone excited about working at the Department of Veterans Affairs to contribute to improving the quality of care in medical settings, especially among vulnerable patient populations. The ideal candidate is also someone who has some knowledge/experience with scientific principles, theories and methodologies related to population health.

The Department of Veterans Affairs nationally, and the Seattle Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value Driven Care are unequivocally committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and supporting a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion that empowers all voices to contribute to our public service mission of improving care and well-being for Veterans and VA's healthcare providers (www.diversity.va.gov/about/mission-vision.aspx). As our team values diversity in hiring, we encourage candidates to highlight in the cover letter their personal commitment to diversity in the workplace and any prior experiences that may relate to our mission of serving Veterans and healthcare providers.

Target salary is GS-9 $57,955 to GS-11 $70,120*, depending on experience, plus benefits. *This salary range includes a Seattle locality adjustment and is subject to change based on the location of the applicant if the position is offered remotely.

Candidates must be US citizens.

Please send a cover letter and resume using the subject line "HSR&D Data Analyst" to alexander.kloehn at va.gov. Applications accepted until the position is filled.

For more information about the HSR&D COIN, please see www.hsrd.research.va.gov/centers/seattledenver.cfm

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Rachel Hunter-Merrill, MA
Health Science Specialist (Biostatistician)
HSRD-COIN, VA Puget Sound Health Care System
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