

**Applications are invited for Junior Research Fellow (JRF) for DBT project, “Smart regulation of antibiotic use in India: understanding, innovating and improving compliance”** under India-UK initiative on ‘Antimicrobial Resistance’. The position is with the Principal Investigator of the project, Dr. Anita Kotwani, Director-Professor & Head, Department of Pharmacology, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi University, Delhi 110007. Appointments shall be for a period of one year or till the project. Last date of application submission is February 04, 2021.

**Position: Junior Research Fellow**

**Project Brief:**

Project title: Smart regulation of Antibiotic use in India: Understanding, Innovating and Improving Compliance.

This is an innovative collaborative project between Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and Research Councils UK.

**Indian team - PI, Prof. Anita Kotwani, Department of Pharmacology, V.P. Chest Institute,** Co-Investigators from Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP), Amity University and National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad.

PI from UK Team is from School of Law, University of Edinburgh, UK.

**Project Summary:** The containment of AMR is a multi-faceted task that needs a one-health approach as suggested in the World Health Organization’s (WHO) 2015 Global Action Plan (GAP) on AMR. Countries including India have aligned their National Action Plans (NAPs) on AMR with this international guidance. One of the important links for various activities for AMR containment is the appropriate use of antibiotics to reduce selection pressure on microbes. According to the GAP, effective regulation will be a key tool for ensuring that national standards aimed at optimizing the use of antimicrobial medicines in human and animal health are followed in practice.

The core idea of this project is to understand and gather the ideas and methods of 'smart regulation' to better understand the underlying problems and apply them to co-produce innovative regulations with Indian national and state regulators and regulatory subjects that will likely lead to mutually acceptable regulations and improved compliance.

**Key sectors:** Taking a one health approach, we have chosen four key sectors particularly affected by AMR that will be studied in detail in three geographical contexts i.e., within two Indian states and at the national level. The four sectors are:

1. OTC antibiotic sales at pharmacies without valid prescription

2. Poultry farmers using antibiotics (including as a growth factor)
3. Hospital AMR containment
4. Pharmaceutical industry effluents and AMR

**Responsibilities:**

The successful candidate will

- Consolidate project knowledge base by assist in drafting project reports and scientific publications
- Conduct structured literature search on antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic use in health care, and environmental pollution from pharmaceutical industry for antibiotics
- Analyze in-depth interviews conducted with various stakeholders and write reports
- Assist the team by undertaking interdisciplinary collaboration with research collaborators.
- Assist in collating and analysis of data collected and prepare timely reports for research publications and projects.
- Ensure systematic data collection, cleaning, storage and analysis within the project timelines.
- Writing scientific papers, research outputs including project reports, workshop related background documents, project summaries and other documents related with the project.
- Assist in organizing workshops with key stakeholders, project reports and updates to the donor and other partners and coordination among other research partners within and outside the institution.
- Support in any other research and work needed with day to day functioning of the organization as specified by the study investigator.

**Essential Qualifications:**

1. Post graduate degree in Pharmacology/Public Health/basic sciences /home science/social sciences/ mass communication/biotechnology/Veterinary Sciences; Graduate/postgraduate in medical profession courses, selected through a process described through any of the following:
  - a. Selected through National Eligibility Tests - CSIR-UGC NET including lectureship and GATE
  - b. The selection process through National level examinations conducted by central government departments and their agencies and institutes such as ICMR, DST, DBT etc

c. **In case the candidate has not cleared any national exam and if the candidate is deserving can be taken as Project Associate-1.**

2. Skills: excellent scientific writing, good communication skills, proficient in using Microsoft Office and data analysis software.

The ideal candidate is **desired** to have:

- Have prior experience with data extraction, systematic reviews and research writing and some previous publications. Preferably in antimicrobial resistance and use
- Experience in antimicrobial resistance/antibiotic use/health care delivery & research and some experience of working in multi stakeholder project.
- Be proficient with MS office (word & excel).
- Experience of conducting qualitative research including in depth interviews, focus group discussions and thematic analysis.
- Experience of working in multidisciplinary team or multi centre studies

**Compensation:**

Compensation will be as per DBT/ICMR project norms: JRF - INR 31,000/pm+HRA. For project associate Level-1, Rs.25,000/pm+HRA.

**Tenure:**

Appointment shall be initially for a period of one year or till the project completion of the project, whichever is earlier.

**Location of posting:**

The position is based in New Delhi, but candidates should be prepared to travel to Haryana and Telangana for short period for project work.

**Application:**

A **CV** and a **1-page cover letter** may be sent to [smartantibiotics@gmail.com](mailto:smartantibiotics@gmail.com) with the acronym **(position title)** in the **subject line**. The letter should outline how the candidate's background fulfils entry requirements. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the interview. Last date of application submission is February 04, 2021.