



ESF short term secondment scheme

Position in the Medical Sciences Unit

Supporting the launch and management of the Forward Look 'Investigator-Driven Clinical Trials' (FL IDCT)

Rationale

The European Science Foundation, complying with its mission to help its Member Organisations (MOs) setting science agendas for Europe, has developed Forward Looks among its instruments. In 2007 the proposal to address the question relative to "Investigator-Driven Clinical Trials" in Europe was supported by the European Medical Research Councils (EMRC) and approved to be launched under the chairmanship of Professor Jürgen Schölmerich, Vice-President of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany.

Identification of the Unit

European Medical Research Councils (EMRC) is one of the five Scientific Standing Committees of the European Science Foundation. The mission of the EMRC is to promote innovative medical research and its clinical application towards improved human health. EMRC offers authoritative strategic advice for policy making, research management, ethics, and better health services. In its activities, EMRC serves as a voice to its Member Organisations and the European Scientific Community.

EMRC disseminates knowledge and promotes the socio-economic value of medical research to the General Public and Decision Makers.

More information at: <http://www.esf.org/emrc/idct>

Type of position proposed

EMRC offers a secondment opportunity to a Junior to middle graded Science Officer to benefit from Member Organisations' experience in a Forward Look (FL) type of activity, to support the launch and management of the Forward Look 'Investigator-Driven Clinical Trials' (FL IDCT).

Description of the 'project': tasks, deliverables, milestones

The secondee will be offered to exchange information on his/her current experience and give advice and suggestions on how to develop successfully this foresight exercise. This will imply following the newly issued ESF guidelines to manage such an activity and to help organising the five workshops to develop recommendations on:

- categories and design of clinical trials,
- regulatory and legal issues, IPR and data sharing,
- management and logistics of IDCT
- training, education, career and authorship,
- funding and models of partnership.

A final report and a science policy document will be produced following the consensus conference.

Qualifications of a successful candidate

The ideal candidate would have national or international experience in areas such as:

- producing foresight analyses in the biomedical field
- translational and clinical research in academia
- managing high-level expert groups

- addressing policy makers' requests (at the national level: research funding agency or Ministry and/or at the international level: WHO, EU COM, NIH or Institute for Medicine of the National Academies in the USA)

Period and length of the secondment

Ideally the secondment would be full time for a period of 4 to 6 months starting in **May 2008** in line with the organisation of the consensus conference to be held on 29-30 September 2008 and the production of the final report that will conclude the FL IDCT.

Supervision and support foreseen

EMRC's Head of Unit, Carole MOQUIN-PATTEY, will be the supervisor of the secondee. A monthly meeting with the Director of Science and Strategy will be scheduled and a formal presentation of the outcome of the secondment will be made at the Management Group Meeting and to the Head of the secondee's home organisation.

Benefits for the MO

The position would benefit the MO that is undergoing the same strategic approach and/or is involved as a non commercial sponsor, and as such is facing the challenge of running such studies at a national, European or international level.

Benefits for the secondee

The secondee will join a team that will allow him/her to better know ESF and EMRC Unit from the inside. He/she will have the opportunity to apply knowledge and experience collected at his/her national home institution to an international organization. Having worked in an international organization can be beneficial also for future career moves. Working together with the multicultural and dynamic ESF staff is beneficial and, last but not least, Strasbourg and Alsace are also attractive locations to work and live.

Deadline for applications: 15 April 2008.

Date of interviews: 25 April 2008.

ESF short-term Secondment Scheme Rules

- The period of secondment normally is 3-6 months, based in Strasbourg France;
- The Home Organisation continues to pay salaries and benefits while on secondment.
- ESF pays all additional costs linked to the secondment i.e.
 - Relocation costs/ associated travel costs
 - Furnished lodging in Strasbourg
 - Home trips every 4 weeks
 - A daily allowance based on days of presence at ESF in Strasbourg
 - The cost of any mission carried out at the request of the ESF at the rates applicable to its own rules and regulations

Member Organisations and ESF will work together to ensure continuity of health coverage and other insurances while on secondment.