

Research internship HIV and Cardiovascular disease in South Africa

Are you looking for an internship from January 2018 onward? We offer a research project on HIV infection and the development of cardiovascular disease in South Africa for the duration of minimal 18 weeks.

Who are eligible: Medical, biomedical or epidemiology students, preferably enrolled in a Master programme.

Period: start in mid-January-February 2018 for a duration of min. 18 weeks.

Where: North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

HART, the Hypertension in Africa Research Team of the North-West University (NWU) situated in Potchefstroom in the North West Province of South Africa, about 150 km northwest of Johannesburg, is interested in how HIV infection and the treatment thereof affects the cardiovascular health of people living with HIV in South Africa.

This internship opportunity is offered by HART in collaboration with Julius Global Health, Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care, UMC Utrecht.

HART started with data collection in a research study, the EndoAfrica study, in August 2017. This study, titled "Vascular endothelial dysfunction: The putative interface of emerging cardiovascular risk factors affecting populations living with and without HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa" is a longitudinal study with an 18 months follow-up period.

The internship will focus on the development of cardiovascular disease among HIV infected black South Africans and consists of two parts:

- Data collection in Potchefstroom for approximately 18 weeks from mid-January-February 2018. We expect you to participate in the daily logistics of the EndoAfrica study.
- We expect you to develop your own research question, and to write your own scientific report using data collected by HART.

What can you expect from us:

- The opportunity to get fieldwork experience in South Africa
- Training to conduct several measurements indicating cardiovascular health
- Dedicated supervision during the whole project
- Ample experience with logistic arrangements (housing, visa application advice etc).

What do we expect from you?

- An availability for at least 18 weeks. This period allows you to get used to the situation abroad.
- Availability to start in mid-January-February 2018.
- Independence, enthusiasm, cultural sensitivity and the ability to work under pressure.
- Experience abroad (in a medical rotation for example) is advantageous.

Financial aspects: The North-West University is not responsible for any extra costs (flight ticket, accommodation and transportation) that will be related to an internship abroad, nor does the project offer an internship allowance.

Please contact Assoc. Prof. Carla Fourie (carla.fourie@nwu.ac.za) from HART, NWU, Potchefstroom, or Assoc. Prof. Kerstin Klipstein-Grobusch (K.Klipstein-Grobusch@umcutrecht.nl) from the Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care, UMC, Utrecht for more information or to apply for the post.