

UK Kidney Association Job description

Job Title:	Biostatistician
Department/section:	Statistics team
Reports to:	Head of Operations

General information

Improving lives by supporting professionals in the delivery of kidney care and research, The Renal Association is the leading professional body for the UK renal community. We welcome members working in clinical renal care, treating and caring for people with kidney disease, and those working in research, or related sciences and fields.

The UK Renal Registry is the part of the Renal Association responsible for the collection, analysis, management and development of a high quality clinical renal database. We use data submitted from the 70 adult and 13 paediatric renal centres across the country to create the database. The information, in the form of data and reports, is a shared resource used to develop research into kidney disease to improve the quality of care for renal patients.

The UKRR collects data on patients with kidney failure with the primary objective of publishing a national audit for providers and purchasers which include population based audit, patient take-on rates, survival analysis and comparative analysis of quarterly biochemical data against audit standards. Until recently, it has collected data quarterly from renal electronic health records, but it is moving to real time data collection as part of a collaboration with other key renal-related organisations across the UK - The UK Renal Data Collaboration.

For renal units, commissioners and patients, this is likely to lead to a number of noticeable benefits:

- Data will be collected from renal units daily (rather than at the end of a quarter) and so the Registry will have a dataset that contains all laboratory results for a patient
- Key indicators can be displayed in real time
- Only one data extraction routine will be required (rather than one for each of the partner organisations) making it easier to maintain mapping and therefore data completeness
- 2-way data communication will become possible between renal units, the Registry and patients, for example to collect patient reported outcomes such as quality of life

The UKRR also undertakes an increasing range of project work commissioned among others by NHS England and Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT). Data from these collaborations are routinely published in high impact medical journals. Further information can be found at www.renalreg.org.

Job Purpose

To prepare information and statistics required for UKRR audit and research.

Responsible for

Criteria	Measure	Comments
Staff		None
Budget		N/A
Equipment		N/A
Statistical analysis	Accurate and relevant	Existing and new analyses
Statistical programs	Documented and accurate	Existing and new programs

Key Working Relationships

Contact	Prime Working Relationship
Management	Provide information and assistance to Escalate problems to
Medical Director / RA director of audit and informatics	Assistance with clinical, data and statistical queries, and perform statistician analysis
Head of Operations	Line Manager, report to Escalate problems to
Senior statisticians/statisticians	Assistance with data and statistical work
Systems staff	Assistance with data queries
Research fellow(s)	Assistance with clinical, data and statistical queries and perform statistician analysis
Renal Association	Assistance with statistical and data queries and perform statistician analysis
Author(s)	Assistance with clinical, data and statistical queries and perform statistician analysis
NHS England/ Commissioners	Assistance with clinical, data and statistical queries and perform statistician analysis
Other researchers and research bodies	Build relationships with
NHSBT	Build relationship and contacts, assist with data and data query resolution

Main Duties

Operational Role

1. Undertake statistical analyses and prepare accurate information and statistics required for UKRR publications, online portal and reports.
2. Contribute to the further development and maintenance of the data portals.
3. Contribute to the design, execution and statistical analysis of research projects.
4. Prepare datasets for external researchers
5. Assist with the co-ordination and development of data collection and processing activities.
6. Assist with the specification of all data recording and validation processes.
7. Represent the UKRR at meetings on statistical matters as required.
8. Plan and prioritise your statistical workload.
9. Document and maintain statistical data and information according to UKRR guidelines and standards.
10. Work with colleagues and share knowledge to assist with problem resolution.
11. Follow best practice guidelines.



12. Comply with the Data Protection Act thus ensuring that patient confidentiality is preserved.
13. Undertake work as specified on internal and external projects to further the work and reputation of the UKRR.
14. Undertake personal development to ensure skills and knowledge are maintained and developed and to be aware of relevant developments in your field.
15. Undertake any other occasional or ad hoc duties as required by the management of the UKRR.

Opportunities

16. Implement new statistical techniques
17. Understand the legal framework behind and legislation around data collection and sharing – as well as how this will develop in the future – this is a skillset required by every renal unit.
18. Develop an understanding of legislation around data protection and Information Governance.

The postholder is expected to undertake any other duties commensurate with the grade.



Person specification

Qualifications	Essential/Desirable
Statistics or Medical Statistics degree – minimum BSc	E
Masters degree in Statistics or Medical Statistics	D

Experience/skills/knowledge	Essential/Desirable
Demonstrable medical statistics experience including data analysis, statistical programming and statistical modelling, using analysis packages	E
Experience in large scale data management, handling clinical data and linked data sources	E
Skilled in gathering data from multiple sources and in multiple formats with knowledge of challenges posed by data quality	E
Demonstrable experience in cleansing, validating and enriching of data	E
Experience with Python or SQL	E
Proven SAS skills, including macros and automated report generation	E
Experience in using Tableau or other portal development software	D
Experience in working with linked HES and GPES data	D
Intermediate level in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	E
Excellent planning and organisational skills	E
Proven time management skills	E
Able to demonstrate dependability and reliability	E
High level of interpersonal skills with proven ability to build relationships and communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders at all levels	E
Able to articulate complex information and explain technical data to a non-technical audience	E
Excellent written and verbal communication skills	E
Evidence of excellent team working approach and collaborative working	E
Able to demonstrate initiative	E
Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills	E
Presentation skills	E
Report writing	E
Experience of handling biological data	E
Proven Stata skills	D
Advanced Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	D
Experience with VBA	D
Experience of teaching or training others	D

Other knowledge

Knowledge	Essential/Desirable
Knowledge of renal terminology	D
Demonstrable personal development	D



Other Relevant Information

Travel requirements

Some UK travel may be required together with overnight stays.

Equality & Diversity Aims

As a member of staff you have a personal responsibility to ensure you do not discriminate, harass or bully or contribute to the discrimination, harassment or bullying of any colleague(s) or visitors or condone discrimination, harassment or bullying by others.

Risk Management

Staff at all levels have a responsibility for ensuring that risks are managed, as an employee you will be expected to maintain a high level of awareness and assist in the process of reporting incidents, assessing risks and reporting unsafe occurrences and to co-operate with any investigations undertaken.

Health and Safety

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, as an employee, you must take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and for other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work. The Act also states that you must not intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare. As an employee you are required to report all accidents to the General Manager.

Information Security and Confidentiality

During the course of your employment you may have access to, see or hear information of a confidential nature and you are required not to disclose such information, particularly relating to patients or staff. All person identifiable information must be held in the strictest confidence and should be disclosed only to authorised people in accordance with NHS Confidentiality Guidelines [Caldicott] and the Data Protection Act 2018 unless explicit written consent has been given by the person identified, or where information sharing protocols allow it.

General Information

This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of duties, but it aims to highlight the typical main responsibilities of the post. It may be reviewed from time to time in agreement with the post holder.

Approved by:

Date:

Accepted by:

Date:

