

Research Assistant for the DEPRESSD and COVID-19 LSR Projects

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The DEPRESSion Screening Data (DEPRESSD) Project (<https://www.depressd.ca>) is a collaborative endeavor that was set up by Drs. Brett Thombs and Andrea Benedetti, who partnered with local and international experts to evaluate the diagnostic accuracy of depression screening tools by conducting individual participant data meta-analyses (IPDMAs). To date, the DEPRESSD Project has been funded by 17 CIHR grants and includes over 350 investigators from 59 countries, with numbers growing as more data are accrued. The DEPRESSD databases represent a highly novel and valuable resource, which is beginning to lead to important outputs. In the past few years, the team has published important IPDMAs on (1) screening tool accuracy; (2) statistical methods in IPDMA; and (3) other methodological studies that advance work on screening questionnaires and their application.

The DEPRESSD team has also conducted the largest systematic review of mental health in COVID-19 (<https://www.depressd.ca/covid-19-mental-health>; Sun et al., *BMJ*, 2023). The team is working on updated systematic reviews to evaluate changes in mental health symptoms among the same participants from pre-COVID to during the pandemic and longitudinally across the pandemic. They are also conducting a meta-research review of COVID-19 mental health research to identify strengths and weaknesses in planning for ongoing mental health surveillance and future disaster preparedness.

We are currently seeking a full-time Research Assistant to join the team.

The tasks of the Research Assistant will include:

- Reviewing scientific publications and screening articles for eligibility as part of the systematic review process
- Extracting published results based on pre-developed coding manuals

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- Basic data analysis, including transforming raw participant data into a uniform format for use in the project, based on existing codebooks; verifying that data submitted to the project can be used to replicate the results from the original studies
 - Contributing to drafting manuscripts for publication

The ideal candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree in health sciences or other relevant field
- Research experience in the health sciences, including data management, evidence synthesis and manuscript writing are assets
- Good interpersonal skills and a strong capacity for teamwork
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office
- Excellent organizational and communication skills

Pay and Duration: Pay to be negotiated based on relevant experience and training.

Start Date: October 2024 (flexible)

To apply: Interested candidates should submit (1) a cover letter, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) an unofficial transcript, and (4) a writing sample (optional) to Nadia González Domínguez (nadia.gonzalez@mail.mcgill.ca), the DEPRESSD Project Coordinator.

The position will remain open until filled.

