

University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

Ref: #02 UoMQStep 2016 UCL-NATSAL

For enquiries contact Dr Jackie Carter, jackie.carter@manchester.ac.uk or Dr Mark Brown, mark.brown@manchester.ac.uk, Q-Step Co-directors

Organisation Name: University College London

Team / Department: Centre for Sexual Health & HIV Research in the Research Department of Infection & Population Health

Address: UCL – 3rd floor Mortimer Market Centre, off Capper Street, London WC1E 6JB

Provisional title for project: National Surveys of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal)

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

The National Surveys of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal) are large, national probability surveys carried out decennially. While the key findings from the most recent survey, Natsal-3, were published in the Lancet in 2013, there are a number of interesting questions for which analyses still need to be undertaken, for example:

- 1) Do people who meet their sexual partners online report greater sexual risk behaviour?
- 2) What are the sexual and reproductive health needs of people with disabilities?
- 3) Is there an association between the hours people work and their sexual well-being?
- 4) Are married people happier and healthier than their non-married counterparts?

Key words (up to 12): sexual health, sexual behaviour, sexually transmitted infections, survey methods, real-life data

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:

- Competence in undertaking descriptive analyses, crosstabulation, and logistic regression

- Ability to use the statistical software package Stata
- An organised, logical and analytical approach to work with attention to detail
- Careful and systematic approach to checking data and reviewing statistical analyses
- Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills
- Highly self-motivated and hard working
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- Comfortable with researching sexual health issues

Desirable:

- Understanding of sexual health issues
- Understanding of survey research methods

Where the work would be carried out:

The Mortimer Market Centre in the UCL Centre for Sexual Health and HIV Research, Research Department of Infection and Population Health, University College London, central London.

Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting):

Interview

Support and training offered by the organisation:

The intern will be supervised by Dr Clare Tanton, Senior Research Associate and Natsal-3 Study Co-ordinator and through her to Dr Cath Mercer, Reader in Applied Statistics and Co-lead of the Natsal studies.

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

All the data to be analysed is anonymised, nonetheless, given the sensitive nature of the research project, the intern will be expected to treat the data and findings as confidential.

Supporting information:

Further information regarding the Natsal studies including details of publications to date are available from the study website: www.natsal.ac.uk

Financial assistance offered by the organisation:

None