Associate or Senior Scientific Investigator in Vaccines & Infectious Disease

Kaiser Permanente WA Health Research Institute, Seattle WA

Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) (https://www.kpwashingtonresearch.org/) is seeking a physician investigator at the Associate or Senior Investigator level (equivalent in rank to an Associate or Full Professor) with nationally-recognized research expertise in the areas of vaccines and infectious diseases to join our faculty. This recruitment is part of the Institute’s succession planning and includes taking a visible leadership role within a well-established and successful vaccine and infectious diseases research program that includes one of 10 NIH-funded Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU) sites in the U.S. and a CDC-funded Vaccine Safety Datalink site. The VTEU is funded by an NIH cooperative agreement through 2026 and the Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD) is funded by a CDC contract through 2027. The successful candidate will serve as an investigator working with the VTEU and VSD programs, in addition to building their own extramurally-funded, independent program of research.

The VTEUs are charged with conducting clinical trials and other evaluations of vaccines and treatments for infectious diseases of public health importance and as such have been on the frontlines for trials evaluating COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics since the onset of the pandemic. For example, Kaiser Permanente Washington was the lead site for the initial Phase 1 trial of the Moderna mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 vaccine and participated in two Phase 3 trials, for the Moderna and Janssen/J&J COVID19 vaccines. The Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD) is a collaborative project between CDC’s Immunization Safety Office and 11 health care organizations, which started in 1990 and continues today in order to monitor safety of new and existing vaccines utilizing electronic health data from each participating site. During the pandemic, the VSD has been instrumental in monitoring the safety of COVID-19 by conducting population-based assessments of the risk of adverse events of interest, such as myocarditis, following vaccination.
We seek a physician scientist with research and content expertise in clinical trials, epidemiology, vaccines, and infectious diseases. Candidates must have or be eligible for a WA state medical license and be board certified or board eligible by ABMS or other appropriate certifying agency. Depending on rank and duration of research experience, the ideal candidate will also have:

- A history of independent, extramural research funding in vaccine and infectious diseases research as Principal Investigator (PI) or Multiple PI.
- Ability to plan, initiate, and conduct scientific research and evaluation studies, including analyzing, interpreting, and disseminating research findings.
- Ability to collaborate with a diverse group of colleagues as co-investigator or project lead.
- Strong interpersonal skills, organizational skills, and emotional intelligence.
- Evidence of a national reputation for one’s scientific program, as demonstrated by a combination of: publication in moderate/high impact scientific journals, national service (e.g., scientific peer reviewer, service to professional societies), and invited talks as lead presenter at national scientific conferences. For appointment at the Senior Investigator level, evidence of a national and/or international reputation is required.
- A demonstrated commitment to mentoring and developing the careers of junior scientists and staff.
- Involvement in promoting equity, inclusion, and diversity and a commitment to KPWHRI’s equity, inclusion, and diversity efforts.
- Interest in working collaboratively with faculty, staff, trainees, and students from a wide range of disciplines, cultures, and backgrounds.
- Additional criteria may apply, as appropriate to the rank of one’s faculty appointment.

The position is located in Seattle, Washington and residence within Washington state is required. Applicants who represent the broad range of diversity and lived experiences in our communities are strongly encouraged to apply. KPWHRI is an internationally recognized research organization that conducts epidemiologic, health services, preventative, and clinical research to improve health, health equity, and health care for all people. It is one of eight regional research institutes within Kaiser Permanente, all of which conduct public-domain science. That is, while work of the Institute advances care delivery within Kaiser Permanente, our research is not proprietary. We seek to generate knowledge and transform health and health care for all. The Institute’s research is primarily funded through federal grants and contracts that total more than $60 million annually.

Our position within Kaiser Permanente Washington (www.kp.org/wa), a not-for-profit health care delivery system headquartered in Seattle, provides a natural laboratory to study important health issues through clinical trials and observational studies which leverage our unique access to members and healthcare data. KPWHRI has over 300 employees, including a faculty of approximately 70 scientists trained in public health, medicine, epidemiology, behavioral science, community health evaluation research and biostatistics. It is part of a vibrant regional research community including the University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle Children’s Research Institute and Seattle Veterans’ Affairs Medical Center. Most faculty at KPWHRI have affiliate positions at these local research institutions and collaborate locally and nationally. The culture at KPWHRI is highly collaborative, productive, and respectful of the lived experiences of community members, research participants, and employees.
To apply: Please submit a letter of interest, research statement, and CV via Kaiser Permanente’s online application system using one of these links:

Associate Investigator: https://www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org/job/seattle/associate-investigator/641/45718848944

Senior Investigator: https://www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org/job/seattle/senior-investigator/641/45718848960

Questions about the position can be directed to the Search Committee Co-Chairs (gregory.e.simon@kp.org or nora.b.henrikson@kp.org) or Talent Acquisition Consultant narine.x.malkchyan@kp.org. Additional application procedures may be required.

For full consideration, submit materials by June 1, 2023; however, review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Kaiser Permanente is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce. Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), age, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, parental status, ancestry, disability, gender identity, veteran status, genetic information, other distinguishing characteristics of diversity and inclusion, or any other protected status. External hires must pass a background check/drug screen. Qualified applicants with arrest and/or conviction records will be considered for employment in a manner consistent with federal and state laws, as well as applicable local ordinances, including but not limited to the San Francisco and Los Angeles Fair Chance Ordinances. This position supports Kaiser Permanente’s code of conduct and compliance by adhering to all laws and regulations, accreditation and licensure requirements, and internal policies and procedures.

Dedicated to Our People

We offer industry-leading benefits designed to help our team members and their families stay healthy, meet their financial goals, and thrive in and beyond work.