

RENOIR : RhumatismE iNflammatOire, mIci et tRavail

### **Description**

Lorraine Université d'Excellence (LUE) Program is inviting applications for a post-doctoral position (100 %, 24 months) to develop a patient reported outcome measure assessing difficulties at work, needs for adaptations and motivations to work of patients with inflammatory arthritis (IA) and inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).

The perspective is to include this outcome measure in a research program dedicated to help patients to maintain their employment and improve their well-being at work. The aim is to create a diagnosis tool to personalize the support provided.

### **Project:**

LUE IMPACT GEENAGE (Functional Genomic, Epigenomic and ENvironment interplay to impact the understanding, diagnosis and management of healthy and pathological AGEing). The ambition of GEENAGE is to produce new strategies of diagnosis and management of healthy and pathological ageing by targeting the functional consequences of the interplay between diseases and environment.

Duration: 24 months post-doctoral position available

### **Objective and organization of the research:**

Despite biologic drugs and improvements of inflammatory arthritis (IA) treatment, many patients with inflammatory arthritis and inflammatory bowel diseases still face increased absenteeism, reduced at-work productivity and report difficulties working and having to give up their jobs. Such professional limitation generates psychological stress and it felt generally as a premature social ageing.

“Making-it-Work” is an intervention developed in English speaking Canada, which aims at enabling both patients and employers to intervene early during the course of inflammatory arthritis to reduce possible problems at work, and to prevent sick leave and future work disability in the long term and improve well-being at work.

As part of the EVADE (Evaluation of the effectiVeness of an ADaptation of the Making it-Work intervention in a French Environment) project which aims at evaluating the effectiveness of an adaptation of the “Making-it-Work” intervention, to the French environment, we propose to develop a questionnaire to assess difficulties at work, needs for adaptations and support and motivations to work of patients with inflammatory arthritis and inflammatory bowel diseases. The final objective is to develop strategies helpful to maintain people at work in the best conditions, therefore reducing psychological stressors that contribute to accelerated ageing.

### **Post-doctoral project and missions**

The development of the patient-reported outcome (PRO) measure will comprise:

- *Step 1:* Identifying themes and generating items by
  - Conducting focus groups and/or individual semi-structured interviews including patients with IA and IBD to identify the problems faced at work due to the disease and identify strategies helpful for maintaining employment. Work characteristics, work environment, and social, economic factors and role of family members will receive specific attention.
  - Conducting focus groups including patients with IA and IBD who stay at work despite the disease to identify their motivations and needs to stay at work.
  - Conducting the thematic analysis, following a general inductive approach
- *Step 2:* Selecting items using a Delphi method using a panel of patients and health care professionals
- *Step 3:* Items reconciliation and selection by an expert panel
- *Step 4:* Cognitive debriefing of selected items (pre-test).
- *Step 5:* Evaluate psychometric properties will follow the standards for assessing validity of a complex measurement scale, checking for truth, discrimination and feasibility (OMERACT filter 2.0) according to the COSMIN check-list. Scale measurement properties will be assessed using Rasch measurement methods.

**APEMAC unit**

Public health APEMAC unit “Adaptation, measure and evaluation in health” is a multidisciplinary unit with 2 teams at the Université de Lorraine

- **MICS team** - Measure and complex health interventions (Coordinator: Francis Guillemin) - of public health and clinical research in Nancy
- **EPSAM team** - Adaptation, health behaviors and psychological care (Coordinator: Cyril Tarquinio) - of research in health psychology in Metz.

The research unit is composed of 35 researchers, (28 researchers and 15 PhD students in the MICS team).

The unit project is structured around 4 themes:

- Concepts and methods (outcome measures and evaluation of complex interventions)
- Chronic disease person, perceived health and adjustment to the disease
- Healthy lifestyle and Health promotion
- Health services research

#### **Major publications of the unit in this topic:**

- Fautrel B, Morel J, Berthelot JM, Constantin A, De Bandt M, Gaudin P, Maillefert JF, Meyer O, Pham T, Saraux A, Solau-Gervais E, Vittecoq O, Wendling D, Erpelding ML, Guillemin F; STPR group of the French Society of Rheumatology. Validation of flare-ra, a self-administered tool to detect recent or current rheumatoid arthritis flare. *Arthritis Rheumatol.* 2017 Feb;69:309-19.
- Guillemin F, Rat AC, Goetz C, Spitz E, Pouchot J, Coste J. The Mini-OAKHQOL for knee and hip osteoarthritis quality of life was obtained following recent shortening guidelines. *J Clin Epidemiol.* 2016; 69:70-8.
- Dadoun S, Guillemin F, Lucier S, Looten V, Saraux A, Berenbaum F, Durand-Zaleski I, Chevreul K, Fautrel B. Work productivity loss in early arthritis during the first 3 years of disease. A study from the ESPOIR cohort. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2014 Sep;66(9):1310-8.
- Goetz C, Coste J, Lemetayer F, Rat AC, Montel S, Recchia S, Debouverie M, Pouchot J, Spitz E, Guillemin F. Item reduction based on rigorous methodological guidelines is necessary to maintain validity when shortening composite measurement scales. *J Clin Epidemiol.* 2013 Jul;66(7):710-8.
- Rat AC, Pouchot J, Fautrel B, Boumier P, Goupille P, Guillemin F. Factors associated with fatigue in early arthritis: Results from the ESPOIR cohort. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2012 Jul;64(7):1061-9.
- Rat AC, Guillemin F, Osnowycz G, Delagoutte JP, Cuny C, Mainard D, Baumann C. Total hip or knee replacement for osteoarthritis: Mid- and long-term quality of life. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2010 Jan 15;62(1):54-62.
- Rat AC, Pouchot J, Guillemin F, Baumann M, Retel-Rude N, Spitz E, Coste J. *Int J Qual Health Care.* 2007 Dec;19(6):390-8.
- Rat AC, Coste J, Pouchot J, Baumann M, Spitz E, Retel-Rude N, Le Quintrec JS, Dumont-Fischer D, Guillemin F. OAKHQOL: a new instrument to measure quality of life in knee and hip osteoarthritis. *J Clin Epidemiol.* 2005 Jan; 58(1):47-55.

#### **Candidate qualification:**

- Applicants should have a strong expertise in qualitative research and in psychometry. An experience in using mixed method will be valued.
- Applicants should be able to conduct his/her research independently but also to work in a team.
- Applicants should have skill to facilitate and coordinate the project

#### **Terms and tenure**

This 24 months post-doctoral position will be based in Nancy, at APEMAC unit (EA 4360).

The duration cannot exceed 24 months.

The target start date for the position is July to September 2018, with some flexibility on the exact start date.

#### **How to apply**

Applicants are requested to submit the following materials:

- A cover letter applying for the position
- Full CV and list of publications
- Academic transcripts (unofficial versions are fine)

Applicants will be interviewed by an ad hoc commission *june 2018*.

Applications are only accepted through email to the responsible of the research program: Dr Anne-Christine Rat

All documents must be sent to <mailto:ac.rat@chru-nancy.fr>

**Deadline for application** is *may 31, 2018*.