

MEDIZINISCHE FAKULTÄT INSTITUT FÜR MEDIZINISCHE INFORMATIONSVERARBEITUNG, BIOMETRIE UND EPIDEMIOLOGIE - IBE LEHRSTUHL FÜR BIOMETRIE UND BIOINFORMATIK



## Vacancy PhD position Systematic reviews/HTAs of complex interventions

**Projektbeschreibung/** project description:

INTEGRATE-HTA - Integrated health technology assessment for evaluating complex technologies is a European Union-funded project, which aims to develop concepts and methods for HTA to enable a patient-centred, integrated assessment of the effectiveness, and the economic, social, cultural, and ethical issues of complex technologies/interventions, taking context and implementation into account.

Complex interventions are characterised by many interacting components, the number and difficulty of behaviours required by those delivering or receiving the intervention, the number of groups or organisational levels targeted by the intervention, the number and variability of outcomes, and the degree of tailoring of the intervention permitted. *Health technology assessment (HTA)* is a multidisciplinary process that summarises information about the medical, social, economic and ethical issues related to an intervention in a systematic, transparent, unbiased and robust manner. In recent years, the need for appropriate methods to develop and evaluate complex interventions in primary research and systematic reviews has received much attention, the implications for HTA have rarely been addressed. This multicentre project aims to tackle this deficit by improving existing and developing new concepts and methods for HTA.

Within this project, the University of Munich will lead on activities to

- Adapt existing systematic review and evidence synthesis methods to assess effectiveness of complex interventions. Non-randomised evidence and standard and novel meta-analytical approaches will be among the issues addressed.
- Extend systematic review methodology to include context, setting and implementation. Logic models, tools to assess factors related to context and implementation and qualitative systematic reviews will be among the issues addressed.

New/adapted concepts and methods will be applied in an HTA of specialist palliative care teams, as well as in systematic reviews of public health interventions (as part of other ongoing projects with WHO, European CDC, Cochrane Collaboration).

The role of the PhD student will be to contribute to the development and implementation of both of these activities. The PhD research topic will be located within one of the activities and will be defined in accordance with the applicant's interests.

Voraussetzungen/ prerequisites:	The applicant should have a Masters level qualification in epidemiology, public health, biostatistics or a related subject. Prior
	experience with systematic reviews, meta-analysis or HTA would be an asset. Excellent knowledge of English is required.
	The applicant should demonstrate a keen interest to work in an interdisciplinary team based in Munich, and enjoy frequent in-
	teractions with colleagues in Bremen, Oslo, Nijmegen, Rome and Sheffield.
Gewünschter Projekt-	1 January 2013 (some flexibility)
beginn/	
project start:	
Vorauss. Projekt-	3 years
dauer/	
project duration:	
Art u. Höhe der	½ E13 TV-L
Vergütung/ compensation conditions:	(approx. € 1594 gross salary per month)
Ansprechpartner/	Dr. Eva Rehfuess
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