



European Research Project **EURO IMPACT**
“European Intersectoral and Multi-disciplinary Palliative Care Research Training”
(EU 7th Framework Programme) is looking for:
4 full time experienced researchers (m/f)



EURO IMPACT • **AIMS** to develop a multi-disciplinary, multi-professional and intersectoral educational and research training framework in Europe, aimed at monitoring and improving the quality of palliative care in Europe. The consortium of EURO IMPACT involves 11 partners across Europe, representing a number of disciplines and professions, and will train researchers in scientific and complementary skills. Prof. Deliëns and Prof. Van den Block from the End-of-Life Care Research Group of Ghent University and Vrije Universiteit Brussel in Belgium coordinate the project.

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION • EURO IMPACT is hiring 4 full time experienced researchers • conducting research in the field of palliative and end-of-life care in a European context • writing papers for peer reviewed journals and making joint dissemination products that will profoundly impact palliative care and policy at EU level • collaborating with other junior and senior researchers across Europe •

CONDITION OF MOBILITY • Researchers should be prepared to be based in another country than the country of residence and to travel across Europe

GENERAL JOB PROFILE AND REQUIRED SKILLS • honed research skills and experience relevant to palliative or end of life care, excellent understanding of health care or clinical research methods • in the first 5 years (full-time equivalent) of your research career **AND** either already in possession of a doctoral degree, independently of the time taken to acquire it **OR** having at least 4 years of research experience (full-time equivalent) after obtaining the degree which formally allows you to embark on a doctorate in the country in which the degree/diploma was obtained or in the country where the initial training activities are provided • demonstrated ability to write scientific papers and reports • fluent in written and oral English • good team working and communication skills • well organized • flexible • commitment to palliative care and/or end of life care research

WHAT WE OFFER • full time research position for 2 years in Belgium, and for 1.5 years in the Netherlands, UK (London), or UK (Lancaster), starting in 2012 • a research training programme (on-the-job training, structured training courses, networkwide training) provided by institutes at the forefront of palliative care research, focusing on scientific and complementary skills training such as societal dissemination to a wider international audience • monthly living and mobility allowances (salary with full social security coverage, and an additional €500/month), annual travel allowances, €2000 career exploratory allowance, training and research budget

WORK SITES • Researchers will work with all partners but their primary work site will be based in one of the following departments: • BELGIUM, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, End-of-Life Care Research Group, Brussels (*Luc Deliëns, Lieve Van den Block*) • THE NETHERLANDS, VU University Medical Center and EMGO Institute, Amsterdam (*Bregje Onwuteaka-Philipsen, Luc Deliëns*) • UNITED KINGDOM, King's College London, London (*Irene Higginson, Richard Harding*) • UNITED KINGDOM, International Observatory on End-of-Life Care, Lancaster University, Lancaster (*Sheila Payne, Sarah Brearley*)

NEED MORE INFORMATION:

On the project: please visit WWW.EURO-IMPACT.EU

On the individual research projects and institutes involved: see below.

HOW TO APPLY:

If you are interested in **any of the** research projects described below, please send your application to:

Koen Meeussen
Vrije Universiteit Brussel, End-of-Life Care Research Group
Laarbeeklaan 103
1090 Brussels, Belgium
Or use this Email address: koen.meeussen@vub.ac.be

Please send your curriculum vitae including:

- (1) Research experience and duration
- (2) Academic and professional qualifications and grades
- (3) Country of current residence and experience/stays abroad
- (4) Why you want to apply



If you are interested in **particular** individual research projects/centres described below, please send your curriculum vitae including (1) research experience and duration; (2) academic and professional qualifications and grades; (3) country of current residence and experience/stays abroad; (4) which specific project(s) you are interested in and why you want to apply.

TO:

- the contact person of the institution indicated below (if specific application procedures need to be followed in an institution, this person will inform you further); AND
- a copy to Koen Meeussen, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, End-of-Life Care Research Group, Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Brussels, Belgium, Email address: koen.meeussen@vub.ac.be

Description of individual research projects and institutes

Researcher 1 together with researcher 2: Developing a handbook on palliative care for older people

Researcher 1:

Work site: The Vrije Universiteit Brussel, End-of-Life Care Research Group, Brussels, Belgium **for 2 years** (and expected to travel to Switzerland for 3 months).

Deadline for application: March 15 2012 (provisional)

Starting date: from June 1 2012 (negotiable)

Researcher 2:

Work site: VU University Medical Center and EMGO Institute in Amsterdam, the Netherlands **for 1.5 years** (and expected to travel to Belgium for 3 months)

Deadline for application: June 1 2012 (provisional)

Starting date: from Dec 1 2012 (negotiable)

Research project: Aim is to develop a handbook on palliative care for older people using the scientific output of the different PhD students already working in the project and working together with expert institutes conducting research in this field. An international editorial board will be set up reflecting the different important disciplines involved in palliative care for older people.

Other key activities include: to undertake research in the field of palliative and end-of-life care in a European context, to prepare reports and scientific publications, to assist in the dissemination of results, and to represent the project and department and to attend and provide research training specific to the project.

Contact persons:

Researcher 1 (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium):

Prof dr Lieve Van den Block - Tel +32 474 78 18 72 - Email: lvdblock@vub.ac.be

Researcher 2 (VU University Medical Center and EMGO Institute, the Netherlands):

Prof dr Bregje Onwuteaka-Philipsen - Tel +31 204 44 83 85 - Email: b.philipsen@vumc.nl



Researcher 3: Developing a guideline on symptom assessment and clinical applicability of computer symptom assessment

Work site: King's College London, London, Cicely Saunders Institute, London, UK (www.csi.kcl.ac.uk) for 1.5 years (and expected to travel to the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Pain and Palliation Research Group, Trondheim, Norway, for 3 months)

Deadline for application: March 15 2012 (provisional)

Starting date: from June 1 2012 (negotiable)

Research project: Aim is to develop an evidence based guideline on the clinical applicability of symptom assessment using the scientific output of the different PhD students already working in the project together with conducting original research, and working with experts in this field. Guideline development will follow standard methods, and involved the other organizations in EUROIMPACT.

Other key activities include: to undertake research in the field of palliative and end-of-life care in a European context, to prepare reports and scientific publications, to assist in the dissemination of results, and to represent the project and department and to attend and provide research training specific to the project.

Contact persons:

Prof dr Irene Higginson - Tel + 44 207 848 5516 - Email irene.higginson@kcl.ac.uk / palliativecare@kcl.ac.uk

Dr Richard Harding - Tel +44 207 848 8184 - Email richard.harding@kcl.ac.uk

Mrs Lucy Bradley - Tel + 44 207 848 5518 - Email lucy.bradley@kcl.ac.uk

Researcher 4: Developing a guideline on palliative sedation

Work site: Lancaster University, International Observatory on End-of-Life Care, Lancaster, UK for 1.5 years (and expected to travel to the VU University Medical Center and EMGO Institute in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, for 3 months)

Deadline for application: January 31 2012

Starting date: from June 1 2012

Research project: Aim is to evaluate the practice of palliative sedation until death, also called terminal sedation when food and fluid are forgone, in different European countries. Recent studies have shown that the prevalence of this end-of-life decision has grown substantially in the past decades, in contrast to the empirical information about it. Research into how, why, where and by whom it is practiced is high on the agenda of palliative care research. The researcher will use several retrospective and prospective quantitative and qualitative data sets that have been or are being gathered across Europe eg. questionnaires and interviews with physicians and nurses, studies in the nursing home setting.

Other key activities include: to undertake research in the field of palliative and end-of-life care in a European context, to prepare reports and scientific publications, to assist in the dissemination of results, and to represent the project and department and to attend and provide research training specific to the project.

For more information, please [visit the University's eRecruitment site](#)

Contact persons:

Prof dr Sheila Payne - Tel +44 1524 593701 - Email: s.a.payne@lancaster.ac.uk

Dr Sarah Brearley – Tel + 44 1524 592574 – Email: sarah.brearley@lancaster.ac.uk

