## **Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tuberculosis Diagnostics Research**

McGill University & McGill University Health Centre - Montreal, Canada

September 2015



Centre

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GLOBAL PROGRAMMES DE HEALTH PROGRAMS SANTÉ MONDIALE

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**McGill University Health Centre Research Institute** 

## **TB Research in Montreal**

McGill University is Canada's leading research university, ranked as one of the top 25 universities in the world. The McGill International TB Centre is a large, active, diverse research group on tuberculosis, encompassing several disciplines, including epidemiology, clinical research, public health, genomics, diagnostics, molecular epidemiology, health economics, modeling, sociology and international health. Members of the research group have a strong track record for innovative biomedical, clinical, epidemiologic and social research. The TB research group is funded by a number of sources e.g., Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Fonds de recherche Santé - Québec (FRSQ), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Canada and other public and private agencies. More information about our TB research can be found at: Pai Tuberculosis Research Group and McGill International TB Centre.

### **Diagnostic Research**

The Pai TB Research Group has been actively involved in improving TB diagnosis through clinical and field evaluation of new or improved tools such as IGRAs and GeneXpert, and studies on implementation barriers to POC testing and impact. The group is also actively working on modeling TB tools and interventions. Ongoing work includes reproducibility of IGRAs, implementation strategy for new molecular diagnostics, market analyses, and behavioral research relating to diagnostics. Another focus of the group is on measuring and improving quality of TB care, through standardized patients assessments and anthropological studies. The group also supports knowledge synthesis and translation in TB, and has helped create website resources such as tbevidence.org, teachepi.org, bcgatlas.org, tstin3d.com, tbfaqs.org and modeltb.org, and actively contributed to WHO, Stop TB Partnership, ISTC and other policy initiatives. The group also organizes a two-week long Summer Institute in Infectious Diseases and Global Health every year, which includes courses on advanced TB diagnostic research, TB research methods and global health diagnostics (www.mcgill-idgh.ca).

### Fellowship

Applications are invited from recent PhD or MD graduates for a one year, full-time fellowship, starting October 2015. The salary range is \$45,000 - \$55,000 per annum, depending on qualifications and research experience. Extended Health and Dental Insurance will be made available through the Post-Graduate Student's Society. Depending on funding availability, the fellowship may be extended by another year.

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### **Eligibility and Requirements**

Applicants must have:

- a <u>recent</u> MD (with relevant specialization) or PhD degree with a background in epidemiology, clinical research, respiratory research, infectious diseases or public health (as per McGill regulations, individuals whose most recent degree (PhD or MD) was obtained over 5 years ago are not eligible for postdoctoral positions);
- ✓ an excellent academic record, with good quantitative, verbal and communication skills;
- ✓ research experience, particularly in tuberculosis diagnostic research;
- ✓ a strong record of publication (at least 3 first-authored publications in TB is desirable);
- ✓ experience with statistical software such as STATA;
- a research program development plan that would be highly competitive in provincial and national funding competitions for postdoctoral awards;
- ✓ fluency in English (verbal and written); fluency in French is desirable.

#### **Responsibilities**

The postdoctoral fellow will function as a junior investigator, participating fully in teaching, research and related scholarly activities and would be encouraged to apply for independent salary and research funding. Specifically, the fellow would act as a junior investigator on a variety of projects relating to TB diagnostics, including meta-analyses, modeling, and in-country field research. The fellow will provide oversight at the collaborating international sites, conduct data management and analysis, prepare manuscripts, assist in writing grant proposals, and conduct methodological/statistical projects on diagnostic research. Travel abroad will be required.

<u>Important note</u>: This is **NOT** a laboratory-based (bench science) fellowship. The focus is on applied implementation research in clinical and field settings, use of novel methodological and statistical approaches, and evidence-based TB policies and practices. **Applicants interested in basic science research on diagnostics will not be eligible for this fellowship.** 

#### **Application Procedure**

Interested applicants should submit an **application via email**, consisting of a cover letter (including a statement of research interests and prior experience in TB diagnostic research), *Curriculum Vitae*, contact information of 2 relevant referees, along with 3 sample TB publications to:

Madhukar Pai, MD, PhD Canada Research Chair in Translational Epidemiology & Global Health Professor of Epidemiology, McGill University Director, McGill Global Health Programs Associate Director, McGill International TB Centre McGill University 1020 Pine Avenue West, Montreal, QC, Canada, H3A 1A2 Email: madhukar.pai@mcgill.ca

Please contact Dr. Pai (via email) for further information. This position will be advertised until a suitable candidate is identified. Information on postdoctoral fellowship regulations, including information on healthcare and benefits, at McGill University is available at: <a href="http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdocs/">http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdocs/</a> Date of posting: August 14, 2015









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