

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representativity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
RESEARCH ASSISTANT X2
(12 months Fixed Term appointment)
Discipline of Psychiatry
SCHOOL OF CLINICAL MEDICINE
Reference no: T/CM02/2025**

The **Neuropsychiatric Genetics of African Populations – Psychosis (NeuroGAP-Psychosis) Study** seeks a **Research Assistant** to join our team. This study aims to expand our understanding of the genetic architecture of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in African populations, with a focus on sample collection and analysis in Kenya and South Africa. Based in **Durban**, this role provides a unique opportunity to support neuropsychiatric genetic research and contribute to locally-led scientific initiatives.

The Research Assistant will be expected to take part in the following activities:

- **Participant Recruitment and Data Collection:** Recruit study participants, manage data entry, and ensure compliance with study protocols.
- **Translation and Transcription:** Translate (verbal/written) and transcribe study-related data as required.
- **Data Management:** Work comfortably with electronic data capturing tools, submit data electronically, manage participant data, and follow up as per protocol.
- **Organize Assessments:** Arrange and follow up on participant assessments, such as blood samples or other required tests.
- **Protocol Compliance and Record-Keeping:** Ensure adherence to study protocols, maintain organized participant files, and audit compliance as needed.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborate with the study team and engage with the community and stakeholders.

Minimum Requirements:

- **Education:** Degree in Psychology, Social Science, Public Health, Neuroscience (Or related field)
- **Experience:** At least 3 years of research experience, preferably in a clinical or academic setting
- **Technical Skills:** Proficiency in word-processing, spreadsheet, and database tools (Excel, PowerPoint, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Office, REDCap).
 - Familiarity with research ethics and regulations.

Essential Requirements:

- **Language Skills:** Fluency in isiZulu.
- **License:** Valid South African Driver's License.
- **Local Knowledge:** Familiarity with the eThekweni Municipality catchment area.

- **Soft Skills:**

- Excellent organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong attention to detail and analytical skills.

This position reports to Prof.B.Chiliza.

For enquiries or to request the job profile, please get in touch with Ms. Tsatsawani Mkhombo:

 031 260 4184 |  mkhombot@ukzn.ac.za.

You are encouraged to visit the College of Health Sciences website: <https://chs.ukzn.ac.za>.

Application Procedure:

To be considered for the position, applicants must complete the following:

1. Online Screening Form

 Please [click here](#) to complete the form.

UKZN Application form, available on the university's vacancies page

 <https://www.ukzn.ac.za>

Completed application forms should be submitted via email to: mkhombot@ukzn.ac.za.

Closing date: 09 July 2025

Important: Please ensure the Advert Reference Number is clearly stated in the subject line of your email. Applications that do not include both the online screening form and the completed UKZN application form will not be considered.

If you are passionate about mental health research and want to contribute to groundbreaking work on neuropsychiatric genetics in Africa, apply now to join the NeuroGAP-Psychosis team!