

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution.

Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW
(1-year fixed term contract)
HIV PATHOGENESIS PROGRAMME (HPP)
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Ref: HPP/Postdoc Ndlovu/March 2026
CLOSING DATE: Sunday, 3 May 2026

The HIV Pathogenesis Programme (HPP) is a multidisciplinary HIV pathogenesis research programme based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Nelson Mandela School of Medicine in Durban. The HPP has been involved in studies of HIV-1 immunopathogenesis for over 15 years.

The HPP has a **Postdoctoral Research Fellow** position available. The incumbent will be required to be highly motivated, meticulous and hard-working and be able to work independently. The incumbent will report to Dr. Bongjiwe Ndlovu & Prof. Thumbi Ndung'u.

The incumbent's areas of research will include:

Fundamental HIV Evolution and humoral immune responses:

- Characterisation of HIV evolution, diversity and their interactions with broadly neutralizing antibodies with the ultimate goal of developing an effective vaccine, and immune-based therapy. This work is expected to yield important information on immune responses that contribute to HIV vaccine and cure.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- PhD degree in a biomedical field, obtained within the last five years
- Experience in Virology, Immunology or Molecular Biology
- Published first-author papers in peer-reviewed journals

ADVANTAGES:

- Tissue culture experience
- Postdoctoral research experience
- High level of English Language competence appropriate for scientific journal article submissions
- Excellent communication skills and ability to work effectively in multidisciplinary and multicultural teams
- Self-directed, highly-motivated, adaptable

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Sunday, 3 May 2026**. The University, however, reserves the right in special circumstances to accept late applications or to extend the above date in order to facilitate further searches. The selection process will commence in April 2026 and will continue until suitable candidates are appointed or a decision is taken not to fill the posts.

Applicants are required to submit a detailed CV, highlighting their experience in each of the minimum requirements listed above, together with the name, email address and telephone number of three referees who are available to comment on your acquired relevant experience in relation to the post being advertised. Email your applications to Dr. Bongjiwe Ndlovu at Ndlovub3@ukzn.ac.za, with a copy to Mrs. Tarryn Tomlinson at leslie@ukzn.ac.za. **Please quote the advert reference number in your subject line: HPP/Postdoc Ndlovu/March 2026**

Terms of appointment and Selection Process

The post will commence in May or June 2026 and will be offered on a one-year, fixed term contract. Renewal beyond first year will depend on satisfactory performance, and the availability of funding. The terms and conditions governing this appointment will be in compliance with those of the University of KwaZulu-Natal.