JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title	**Senior Researcher – Health and COVID Technologies**	Department	**Ada Lovelace Institute**
Job holder		Reports to	**Associate Director, Research Partnerships**
Job type	**Fixed term, 18 months (maternity cover)**	Date created/amended	**April 2022**
Job aim	The Ada Lovelace Institute (Ada) is hiring a Senior Researcher to provide maternity leave cover for our Health & COVID Technologies programme. This role will provide managerial oversight over two other programmatic projects on genomics and COVID technologies, strategic leadership of our Health & COVID programme, and deliver a project on health inequalities in partnership with the Health Foundation.		

Key responsibilities: Including but not limited to

1. People management and stewardship of Health & COVID 19 Technologies programme and research staff

- Holding regular programme meetings with other researchers to ensure the Health & COVID 19 Tech programme stays on track
- Identify new strategic opportunities for the Health & COVID 19 technologies programme to have impact
- Providing line management support, including regular 1:1 meetings, with two research staff
- Providing feedback and guidance on research design and management for two research staff

2. Writing and communications on Health Inequalities project

- Collaborating with other project partners to feed into their research findings and produce project outputs based on emerging evidence.
- Drafting and editing of research outputs, blogs, media comments and other resources.
- Coordinating with Ada's communications and policy teams, along with those of other research partner organisations, to coordinate communication outputs and policy influencing strategies.
- With support from colleagues, to undertake occasional public speaking and drafting of media comments.

3. Research analysis and management on Health Inequalities project

	▪ Take on responsibility for the project management and delivery of a multistakeholder research project with 3 other researchers on healthcare inequalities. Several stages of this project are already underway and partially completed; primary responsibilities involve conducting additional stakeholder interviews, familiarising yourself with the existing raw research data, and working with research partners to draft the final outputs and deliverables. ▪ Use qualitative interview methods to interview stakeholders responsible for the development, design, and implementation of COVID 19 technologies and their impacts on health inequalities. Some of these stakeholders have already been identified, whilst others may need to be. ▪ Lead regular project advisory meetings with an advisory board and fellow research partners. ▪ Lead regular project meetings with the core research projects, setting deliverables and actions to complete research on time. ▪ Where possible, co-develop recommendations for governments and industry on actions they can take to translate the findings of this research into practice.
4. Impact	
	▪ Identify opportunities for impact in the UK and internationally with different stakeholders, including but not limited to policy and regulators, industry practitioners, AI/ML researchers, public-sector organisations, and others ▪ Design and execute an impact and dissemination plan that identifies key stakeholders and opportunities to influence their policy and practice. For more information on how Ada thinks about impact, see page 21 of our 2021-2024 strategy.
5. Other	
	▪ The above list of key responsibilities (and associated activities) is not exhaustive. It may be necessary to carry out other work within the scope of the role, as reasonably requested, including supporting other researchers

Person specification	Essential (E), Highly Desirable (HD) or Desirable (D)
Experience	
Experience with social research techniques (whether through experience or academic training), and excellent editorial, synthesis and analysis skills	E
Experience with people and programme management	E
Experience working in a public, academic or industry environment, such as international organisations, government agencies, think tanks or learned societies; or experience in tech companies or consultancies	E
Experience of writing on complex topics for different audiences	D
Experience in managing research collaborations involving multiple stakeholders	E
Experience with research planning and coordination	E
Knowledge and Skills	
Ability to lead and execute a multidisciplinary research project with high impact	E
Demonstrable experience and knowledge of issues of health inequalities and data/AI technologies	E
Ability to work with a diverse range of stakeholders	E
Excellent project management skills and ability to drive projects to completion	E
Personal Qualities	
A commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion	E
Flexible and creative, able to think outside the box	E
A collaborative approach to research and thinking	E
Ability to work with some level of autonomy and 'manage up' by working independently and in close communication with other team members	E

A day in the life of an Ada researcher

You will start your day whenever you like – most of the team are online by 9.30am, but some prefer to start early and finish early, or have a later day. We do not believe in strict adherence to working hours and prioritise productivity over clock-watching. We generally start the day by checking in on Microsoft Teams and letting our colleagues know what the day ahead holds.

Every day will be different, and you will probably spend about half of your day in meetings or on calls – doing outreach and sharing information with stakeholders such as DCMS, peer organisations like Algorithm Watch, or academics and researchers; coordinating external consultants, commissioned researchers or working groups; interviewing data scientists or policy people for research, or speaking to the occasional journalist.

You will find team updates and chats on our Teams Channels, and meeting notes and how-to guides in our Notion page. Depending on the day, you might join a team-wide meeting to hear project updates or discuss organisational policies. Also depending on the day, you might have a regular 1:1 meeting with your manager to check in on your wellbeing, raise any challenges or obstacles with your project, and discuss career advancement and growth opportunities. You'll have regular interactions with our Comms team, keeping them abreast of work underway, collaborating on influencing strategy for a forthcoming output, or working together on an output.

The other half of your day you'll spend reading and writing. It might be that you're undertaking in-depth research on a topic, co-facilitating a public deliberation on acceptable use of data, editing a draft, or undertaking some responsive commentary. You might have projects that are highly outward-facing, convening experts around project, or you might have a week offline to write a report. You'll spend some time reading recent news articles, dipping into Twitter and catching up on important policy literature and commentary in our field.

You might wrap up the day by doing some thinking about new initiatives Ada should engage with, new projects Ada should conceive, or some writing based on your findings that week.