POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Medication Safety and Effectiveness During Pregnancy | Real-World Evidence

CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center · Université de Montréal · Montréal, Canada

Duration: 2 years	**Start date: As soon as possible**
Funding: Competitive fellowship stipend	Deadline: Open until filled

The opportunity

Professor Anick Bérard, Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) on Medications in Pregnancy, invites applications from highly motivated and creative researchers for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center, affiliated with the Université de Montréal. The successful candidate will help develop and lead an innovative research program on the safety and effectiveness of medications used during pregnancy, using large-scale real-world data (RWD). The position offers substantial opportunities for scientific leadership, methodological innovation, first-author publications, and international collaboration.

Research platforms

The fellow will work with CAMCCO (Canadian Mother–Child Initiative on Drug Safety in Pregnancy and Childhood), a pan-Canadian infrastructure encompassing approximately 10 million pregnancies and 8 million children across seven provinces; AM-PREGNANT, a US cohort of more than 2.4 million pregnancies based on Merative MarketScan® data; and other comparable international pregnancy cohorts. These resources support studies of maternal, fetal, neonatal, and long-term child outcomes, comparative effectiveness, and emerging therapies.

Key responsibilities

- Develop original research questions and lead rigorous population-based observational studies of medication use during pregnancy.
- Apply advanced pharmacoepidemiological and causal inference methods, including propensity scores, time-varying exposure analyses, and marginal structural models.
- Conduct cross-cohort analyses and collaborate on data harmonization and international comparative research.
- Lead manuscripts, conference presentations, and grant applications; collaborate with clinicians, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and trainees.
- Build scientific independence and contribute to the long-term development of the research program.

Qualifications

- PhD in epidemiology, pharmacoepidemiology, biostatistics, public health, pharmaceutical sciences, or a related field.
- Experience analyzing large observational healthcare datasets, with proficiency in SAS, R, or comparable software.
- Strong quantitative skills, familiarity with causal inference, and a publication record appropriate to career stage.
- Excellent scientific writing, initiative, and ability to work both independently and collaboratively.
- Experience in perinatal epidemiology, maternal-child health, or medication safety is an asset, but not required.

What we offer

A competitive two-year fellowship bursary; access to exceptional Canadian, US, and international RWD infrastructures; close mentorship and opportunities to lead high-impact publications, develop grant applications, and establish an independent research profile in a collaborative, multidisciplinary setting.

About CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center

The CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center is a leading Canadian institution dedicated to maternal, child, and adolescent health. Affiliated with the Université de Montréal and closely connected to clinical care, it brings together researchers, clinicians, and trainees across disciplines to advance discovery and translate evidence into better health outcomes. Fellows join a stimulating environment with strong research infrastructure and national and international collaborations.

About Université de Montréal

Université de Montréal is a major Canadian research-intensive university with internationally connected programs in health and biomedical sciences. Its Faculty of Pharmacy offers a strong academic environment in pharmaceutical sciences, pharmacotherapy, and pharmacoepidemiology. Montréal provides a vibrant, multicultural setting and a bilingual academic community, with opportunities for professional development and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion

Our team is committed to an equitable, respectful, accessible, and inclusive research environment. We welcome applications from candidates of all backgrounds and particularly encourage individuals from groups historically underrepresented in research, including Indigenous Peoples, racialized individuals, persons with disabilities, women, and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Candidates will be assessed on qualifications, scientific potential, and achievements in the context of their opportunities. Reasonable accommodations are available during recruitment.

How to apply

Please send (1) a curriculum vitae with publications, (2) a brief letter outlining research interests, methodological expertise, and career goals, and (3) contact details for two academic references to Professor Anick Bérard at anick.berard@umontreal.ca. Use the subject line “Postdoctoral Fellowship – Medication Safety in Pregnancy.” Applications will be reviewed as received until the position is filled. International applicants are welcome.

Professor Anick Bérard, PhD | Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) on Medications in Pregnancy | Faculty of Pharmacy, Université de Montréal | CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center | Principal Investigator, CAMCCO