The Institute of Primary Health Care of the University of Bern (BIHAM) is dedicated to train and foster the next generation of primary care physicians and to carry out research in primary health care, epidemiology, and public health. The BIHAM offers a lively, interdisciplinary environment with excellent methodological support and access to a large network of practicing primary care physicians.

We are looking for a

**Phd Student in Epidemiology (100%)**

to join the research team of the Institute of Primary Health Care of the University of Bern (BIHAM; www.biham.unibe.ch). Hypertension is a major cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factor. Antihypertensive medication reduces CVD risk and mortality. Current recommendations state that absolute CVD risk and age should guide medication decisions. However, the balance between benefits and harms of different antihypertensive medications across absolute CVD risk or age is unclear and an up-to-date synthesis is required. We will determine the benefits and harms of different antihypertensive medication classes by using a cutting-edge method called network meta-analysis that will allow us to stratify our results by absolute CVD risk and age. With network meta-analysis, we can compare the effects of medications by combining direct and indirect evidence from a network of trials. Our results will help clinicians choose among antihypertensive medication and select the best for preventing CVDs in an individual patient. Our research will also inform guideline developers and ultimately improve public and individual health.

The post is open to any student who is not Swiss. Applicants must not have resided in or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Switzerland for more than a total of 12 months in the three years prior to the submission deadline for this proposal.

**Duties and responsibilities**

- Synthesize and analyse data
- Write research protocols and manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals
- Assist your supervisor in scientific and administrative activities

**Qualifications and skills**

- Strongly motivated and deeply interested in epidemiology and public health
- A Master’s degree in epidemiology, life science, medicine, biostatistics, or equivalent
- Proficient in statistical analyses (use of Stata or R is a plus)
- Ability to speak and write English fluently

The 3-year post is available from December 2018; starting date is negotiable. The PhD stipend is based on the scale of the Swiss National Science Foundation (www.snf.ch/SiteCollectionDocuments/allg_doktorierende_e.pdf). If you are accepted for the position, you will need to apply to the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) Global PhD Fellowship Program in Public Health Sciences (https://ssphplus.ch/en/globalp3hs/).

The BIHAM at the University of Bern is international and interdisciplinary and closely tied to the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM; www.ispm.unibe.ch) and Clinical Trial Unit (www.ctu.unibe.ch), so you would have free access to the courses offered by the SSPH+. For more information on the position, please contact Dr. Cinzia Del Giovane, cinzia.delgiovane@biham.unibe.ch. Your application must include a letter of motivation and CV. Send them to the Human Resources administration: hr@biham.unibe.ch. Applications are accepted until 30 August 2018.