

## Scientific researcher (PhD candidate)

**Project: Understanding pre adolescent psychotic like experiences.**

Vacaturenummer: 27.04.17.TS  
Afdeling: [Kinder- en Jeugdpsychiatrie](#)  
Categorie: Artsen, Wetenschap en O&O  
Aantal uur: 36 uur per week  
Plaatsingsdatum: 5 juli 2017  
Sluitingsdatum: 9 augustus 2017

### Functie-inhoud

Within the Generation R Study and through a 3,5-year PhD position financed by the Medical Research advisory committee of Erasmus MC, the following project is initiated: " Understanding pre-adolescent psychotic-like experiences".

An estimated 15% of 11-13 year olds report hallucinations or delusional thoughts. These psychotic-like experiences are predictive of schizophrenia and other severe mental illnesses. However, which youths develop these symptoms, i.e. the etiology, is poorly understood. Generation R encompasses substantial data on child behavioural problems, childhood adversities, genetics, bullying and psychotic-like experiences in pre-adolescents and adolescents. In addition, we have performed structural and functional brain imaging in more than 5.000 children, the largest single site data set world wide. This allows us to examine the association of childhood adversities and bullying with the emergence of psychotic-like experiences. Additionally, we will examine which neurobiological factors are associated with psychotic-like experiences through neuroimaging, in order to identify brain regions that might index vulnerability to psychosis at an early age. We hope to shed more light on the etiology of childhood psychotic-like experiences in order to identify clinically-relevant modifiable risk factors. A more detailed description of the project is available on the [Generation R website](#).

The candidate would be required to collect data, conduct analyses, and to publish findings in international scientific journals. A Master degree in Epidemiology at the [NIHES](#) is part of the training. The candidate works with a large team of colleagues analysing child behaviour, genetic and brain imaging data. This research would lead toward a PhD.

### Werkomgeving

A healthy population and excellence in healthcare through research and education. This is what Erasmus MC stands for. Conducting groundbreaking work, pushing boundaries and leading the way. In research, education, and healthcare. We are practical people with a high level of expertise, working hard to improve and renew the healthcare of today and the public health of tomorrow.

The Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry of Erasmus MC conducts scientific research, patient care, and administers pre- and post-doctoral education. Large epidemiological studies are a primary focus and strength of the department. In

2001, the Generation R Study began in Rotterdam. Generation R is a multidisciplinary, innovative, and outstanding research study, which follows prospectively approximately 8.000 children from the general population from before birth into adolescence. The study aims to generate new scientific insight into physical, emotional, and social development.

### **Profiel**

Applicants should have a background in Medicine, Psychology or Health Sciences. It is important that the applicant is able to work well both independently and within a team, and that has a good command of English. Knowledge of analytic methods and techniques of (epidemiological), neuroimaging or genetic research is a strength.

Being able to present a certificate of good conduct is a condition for the appointment.

### **Wat bieden wij**

The gross monthly salary amounts a maximum of €2.244,- (scale OIO) or €4.152,- (scale 10), depending on your level of education and relevant experience and based on a full-time working week of 36 hours. [The terms of employment](#) are in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement for University Medical Centers (CAO UMC).

### **Inlichtingen en solliciteren**

For more information about this position, please contact prof.dr. H. Tiemeier, Project Leader, phone number: (+31)(0)10 703 2183 or e-mail: [h.tiemeier@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:h.tiemeier@erasmusmc.nl).