

BE-SAFE is a new EU-funded research project. Its overall aim is to improve patient safety by addressing knowledge and practice gaps related to the reduction of benzodiazepine and sedative hypnotics (BSHs) used for sleep problems in older adults, paying particular attention to implementation aspects, to increase the chance of a large-scale impact at the European level.

A highly interdisciplinary and expert research team

UCLouvain will coordinate the project and will lead two work packages. The senior researchers involved are:

- Prof Anne Spinewine and Olivia Dalleur, from the Clinical Pharmacy Research Group at the Louvain Drug Research Institute (<https://uclouvain.be/en/research-institutes/ldri/clinical-pharmacy-clip.html>). Their expertise around the appropriate use of medications in older people is widely recognized
- Prof Jean Macq, from the Health and Society Research Institute, who is an expert in public health and health systems research.

The CHU UCL Namur will be the Belgian hospital site for the clinical trial. Prof Marie de Saint Hubert is geriatrician and will be the principal investigator.

We therefore offer the opportunity to work within a multidisciplinary research team and a dynamic environment, in close collaboration with researchers from 6 other European countries and from Canada.

We are recruiting!

For this project, at UCLouvain we are looking for:

- **2 full-time researchers (junior research fellows), each for 4 years**
- **1 post-doctoral research fellow, for a minimum duration of 2 years**

Starting date: At the earliest June 1, 2022 – at the latest September 1, 2022.

Research will be conducted at UCLouvain Brussels Woluwe (convenient and rapid commute with public transport to the center of Brussels).

Detailed description is provided for each profile below.

Interested?

- For more information, contact anne.spinewine@uclouvain.be
- Send your application to anne.spinewine@uclouvain.be by **April 30, 2022** at the latest (CV + motivation letter + reference letter or contact information of 1-2 reference persons).

The offer is also available at : <https://uclouvain.be/en/research-institutes/ldri/vacant-positions-0.html>

Junior research fellow #1 – description
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Candidate Profile

- You have – or will have by August - a master degree in the field of public health.
- You have experience in the field of health care systems organisation, and/or have experience as a health care professional.
- You have a very good command of French and English, written and spoken (or willing to quickly reach very good command)
- You are able to work in a team and in an interdisciplinary way;
- You are independent, and you are able to plan and prioritise;

- You are inventive, creative and adapt easily to changing circumstances;
- You have good writing skills;
- You are willing to engage in a doctoral research process

Job description

As a PhD student, your research activities within this contract will include:

- describing relevant clinical pathways and healthcare systems' characteristics in 6 EU countries in such a way that it contributes to understand rationale behind (de-)prescription of BSH and possible intervention to influence it.
- developing a patient-reported experience measure (PREM) relative to harmful medication reduction
- conducting case studies in each of the six countries alongside the randomized controlled trial to build country-specific programme logic models and provide a rich understanding of why, how, for whom and where the intervention was, or was not, effective.

Benefits: employment contract with UCLouvain, in the context of a funding from the European Union (Horizon Europe)

Junior research fellow #2 – description
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Candidate Profile

- You have – or will have by August - a master degree in pharmaceutical sciences, medicine, public health, or another master degree in health sciences;
- You have a very good command of French and English, written and spoken (or willing to quickly reach very good command)
- You are able to work in a team and in an interdisciplinary way;
- You are independent, and you are able to plan and prioritise;
- You are inventive, creative and adapt easily to changing circumstances;
- You have good writing skills;
- You are willing to engage in a doctoral research process

Job description

As a PhD student, your research activities within this contract will include:

- Identifying barriers and enablers to discontinuing BSHs in 6 EU countries, using qualitative as well as quantitative research methods, and provide recommendations on the development of the intervention
- Performing a process evaluation embedded in the randomized controlled trial, to evaluate intervention fidelity and mechanisms of action, and therefore provide a rich understanding of why, how, for whom and where the intervention was, or was not, effective

You will also contribute to other tasks related to the research project.

Benefits: employment contract with UCLouvain, in the context of a funding from the European Union (Horizon Europe)

Postdoctoral researcher – description
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Candidate Profile

- You have a PhD in one field of health sciences relevant to the research topic (e.g. pharmaceutical sciences, public health, medicine, ...) or in health psychology
- You have research experience in several of the following fields: health services research; knowledge translation; implementation research; mixed-method and theory driven evaluations; clinical trials; low value care; drug safety; clinical pharmacy research; geriatric research.
- You have a very good command of French and English, written and spoken (or willing to quickly reach very good command)
- You have excellent writing skills and demonstrated publication record;
- You are able to work independently and as part of a team
- You have very good time management skills and are able to manage and prioritize multiple tasks
- You are inventive, creative and adapt easily to changing circumstances;

Job description

Your main tasks and responsibilities within this contract will include:

- Carrying out research tasks dedicated to UCLouvain for BE-SAFE. In year 1, this will include identifying barriers and enablers to discontinuing BSHs in 6 EU countries, using qualitative as well as quantitative research methods, and provide recommendations on the development of the intervention. This will be performed in collaboration with a junior research fellow
- Assisting the principal investigators in: project management, communication with other partners and members of the external advisory board
- Assisting the junior researchers in their tasks
- Coordinating the work of the Belgian members of the Patient advisory council

Benefits: employment contract with UCLouvain, in the context of a funding from the European Union (Horizon Europe). The minimum duration for this position is 2 years, with the potential to later extend to a total duration of maximum 5 years. Applicants interested in part-time positions (minimum 0.5 full-time equivalent) are also welcome to apply.