



Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), a major research component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Health and Human Services, is recruiting for an individual to serve as the Chief of the **Obstetric and Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics Branch (OPPTB)** of the Division of Extramural Research (DER, <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/org/der>). DER develops, implements, and coordinates cross-cutting, multidisciplinary research activities within NICHD's mission. The NICHD research portfolio is quite broad, including biological, behavioral, and clinical research related to conception and pregnancy, normal and abnormal development in childhood, reproductive health, and population dynamics across the lifespan.

The OPPTB's mission is to promote basic, translational, and clinical research to improve the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals and other therapeutics and to ensure centralization and coordination of research, clinical trials, and drug development activities for obstetric and pediatric populations. The Branch and Branch Chief have responsibility for implementing and overseeing the NIH portion of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act of 2002 (BPCA) and its subsequent Reauthorizations. The BPCA legislation promotes the prioritization of off-patent drugs that need further study in pediatrics and allows NICHD to sponsor clinical research on prioritized therapeutics and disseminate results to improve drug labeling. The OPPTB Chief leads in defining the scientific vision for the branch and finding ways to implement that vision through the stimulation of research, research training, and research resources.

The incumbent will utilize deep knowledge of research in pharmacology and therapeutics—especially in obstetric and/or pediatric populations—and have strong leadership skills to achieve the OPPTB goals and objectives. The Branch is responsible for developing and supporting a comprehensive national effort to increase the knowledge base for understanding how to appropriately treat disease during pregnancy, infancy, childhood, and adolescence using evidence-based therapeutic approaches. The goal of this effort is to expand the knowledge of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacogenomics, outcome measures, and biomarkers of disease and treatment and assure that medications are appropriately tested for dosing, safety, and effectiveness within their target populations.

The OPPTB seeks a candidate with a strong background in pharmacology and pharmacogenomics, with additional expertise in clinical research, including large, multicenter clinical trials. Successful candidates for this position will have excellent communication and leadership skills, and in-depth knowledge of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics; developmental pharmacology; and/or safety and effective use of therapeutic drugs in women during pregnancy and lactation.

For additional information about this position, contact William Duval, Ph.D. at william.duval@nih.gov with a resume and letter of interest. Potential candidates should look for the Global Supervisory Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer) or Physician announcements at

<https://jobs.nih.gov/globalrecruitment/>. The Physician announcement is expected to open December 26th, 2018 and the Health Science Administrator announcement is anticipated to open on January 21st, 2019.

HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers