



Title of PhD project	Targeting persistent health inequalities in infectious diseases in Brazil: An intersectional approach	
Supervisor	Dr Julia Moreira Pescarini	LSHTM
Co-Supervisor	Dr Enny Cruz	LSHTM
Co-Supervisor	Dr Elizabeth Brickley	LSHTM
Brief description of project	<p>Social identities, including gender, race, and socioeconomic class, are increasingly recognized determinants of health. Coined in 1989 by Kimberlé Crenshaw, intersectionality is the theory that these identities may overlap and interact over the life course in ways that magnify discrimination and privilege, with potential ramifications for population health. Following decades of progress, the last five years in Brazil have seen expanding socioeconomic inequalities, which have been linked to increased child mortality and infectious diseases. Using nation-wide “big data” (with more than 130 million individuals) that was routinely collected in Brazil, this project proposes to investigate the impact of intersecting social identities on infectious disease incidence, treatment, and complications.</p> <p>The specific objectives will be to investigate intersectionality in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The incidence and treatment of leprosy and leprosy-associated disabilities. 2. The incidence and treatment of tuberculosis as well as tuberculosis-related deaths. 3. The incidence of TB/HIV as well as related complications, including hospitalizations and deaths. <p>By identifying the groups that carry the disproportionate burden of these diseases of poverty, this research will help to inform policy makers on targeted strategies for decreasing health inequalities in Brazil.</p> <p>This position will require strong quantitative skills. Therefore, we welcome the application of students with some previous knowledge in epidemiology and/or statistics. We also encourage the applications of individuals whose personal and</p>	

	<p>professional experiences may contribute to a deeper understanding and discussion of intersectionality in health.</p>
<p>Skills we expect a student to develop/acquire whilst pursuing this project</p>	<p>In pursuing this project, the student will develop quantitative skills related to the epidemiologic analysis of large electronic health record datasets and interdisciplinary skills related to investigating health inequalities and interaction of risk factors. The student will have opportunities to participate in specialized training via standard accredited modules at LSHTM and distance learning courses on data linkage from CIDACS/Fiocruz.</p> <p>Over the course of their studies, the student will gain experience in critical thinking, coordination of international collaborations, acquisition of ethical approval, conduct of systematic reviews/meta-analyses, engagement with local stakeholders and policymakers, and dissemination of research findings via participation in international conferences and publication in peer-reviewed journals.</p> <p>The student will also have access to general courses on doctoral skills and data protection/management through the Bloomsbury Postgraduate Skills Network (https://doctoral-skills.ucl.ac.uk/bloomsbury/list-training.ppt#).</p>
<p>Particular <u>prior</u> educational requirements for a student undertaking this project</p>	<p>MSc (or equivalent) in epidemiology, medical statistics, or a related field</p>
<p>Project key words</p>	<p>Leprosy Tuberculosis HIV Intersectionality Health equity Big data</p>
<p>Possible under 1+4 route? Master's options identified.</p>	<p>Yes LSHTM – MSc Epidemiology</p>
<p>MRC Core Skills developed through this project</p>	<p>Quantitative skills Interdisciplinary skills</p>
<p>MRC LID themes</p>	<p>Global Health Health Data Science Infectious Disease</p>
<p>Further reading</p>	<p>Socioeconomic determinants of leprosy new case detection in the 100 Million Brazilian Cohort: a population-based linkage study</p> <p>Quantifying intersectionality: An important advancement for health inequality research</p>