

Junior Biostatistician

Entry-level position | Part-time: 25–50% FTE | Primarily remote within Belgium

*Please note: This position is intended for candidates who are **currently residing in Belgium** and **are legally entitled to work in Belgium**. Due to the part-time nature of the role, regular collaboration with the BIRD Office team, and occasional travel to Belgian hospitals, applications from candidates living outside Belgium will not be considered. BIRD is unable to provide visa, work-permit, or relocation sponsorship for this position.*

About BIRD

The **Belgian Inflammatory Bowel Disease Research and Development Group (BIRD vzw;** <https://www.birdgroup.be>) is a non-profit organization representing healthcare professionals involved in inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) at academic and non-academic centers across Belgium.

BIRD is dedicated to advancing education and research in IBD, with the ultimate aim of improving the quality of care for people living with IBD.

BIRD conducts multicenter investigator-initiated studies on treatment strategies and quality of care. One of its key initiatives is the ongoing development of the BIRD Registry, a national clinical IBD database that aims to:

1. Collect epidemiological data and generate aggregated reports to improve understanding of the characteristics, care pathways, and treatment patterns of patients with IBD in Belgium.
2. Facilitate retrospective studies investigating epidemiology, safety, effectiveness, quality of care, and outcomes across a wide range of patient populations and treatment classes.

More information is available at www.birdgroup.be and www.birdgroup.be/en/bird-registry.

The BIRD Office team currently consists of four staff members: a COO & Senior Clinical Project Manager, a CRA & Junior Clinical Project Manager, a Clinical Research Coordinator, and an Educational Communication Manager. Together, the team supports BIRD's daily operations, research activities, educational programmes, and collaborations.

The Position

We are looking for a motivated, well-organized, and analytical **Junior Biostatistician** to join the BIRD Office team.

This is an **entry-level position** and an ideal opportunity for a recent graduate or junior professional who wants to gain practical experience in biostatistics, clinical data management, data-quality monitoring, and clinical research.

Extensive professional experience is not required. However, the successful candidate should be able to work independently, take ownership of assigned tasks, and apply a practical understanding of statistics to clinical and registry data.

The role offers an excellent opportunity for someone who enjoys working with clinical data and wants to contribute directly to investigator-initiated clinical research and improvements in IBD care.

The role is **primarily home-based**, offering a high degree of flexibility. However, the successful candidate must be available for occasional in-person meetings with the BIRD Office team and visits to hospitals or other locations across Belgium.

The ideal candidate has an analytical mindset, strong numerical skills, excellent attention to detail, and an interest in structuring, monitoring, analysing, and interpreting clinical data. The candidate should be proactive, solution-oriented, and comfortable working independently while maintaining transparent communication within a small team.

The exact employment percentage, between **25% and 50% FTE**, will be agreed based on the candidate's availability, profile, and the needs of the organization.

Key responsibilities

- Monitor and improve registry data quality through data validation, data cleaning, consistency checks, query management, and follow-up with participating centres.
- Generate aggregated reports and key performance indicators relating to registry completeness, accuracy, and data quality.
- Create clear and accessible data visualizations, including charts, graphs, reports, and dashboards.
- Review clinical study protocols and other research documents from a statistical perspective.
- Provide statistical input to BIRD members and project teams on study design, endpoints, sample-size considerations, and statistical analysis plans.
- Perform statistical analyses for the BIRD Registry and BIRD's multicentre, investigator-initiated studies.
- Interpret and present study results in reports, scientific abstracts, presentations, and publications.
- Help ensure compliance with applicable regulatory, ethical, data-protection, and quality standards relating to clinical data collection, management, analysis, and reporting.
- Support data management and analysis within other innovative research and educational projects.
- Prepare clear documentation of data-management and statistical procedures to promote transparency and reproducibility.
- Collaborate with a broad range of stakeholders, including IBD healthcare professionals, allied healthcare professionals, academic researchers, pharmaceutical industry partners, and public institutions such as Sciensano, KCE, RIZIV/INAMI, and IMA/AIM.

Required Qualifications & Skills

- A master's degree in biostatistics, statistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, health data science, public health, biomedical sciences, or another relevant field with a strong quantitative component.
- A sound practical understanding of statistical principles and research methodology.
- Experience with at least one statistical software package, such as **R, SPSS, SAS, Stata, Python, or GraphPad Prism**, gained through studies, an internship, a thesis, or professional experience.
- Experience with R is considered a strong asset.
- Strong proficiency in Microsoft Office, particularly Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- Strong numerical and analytical skills, with excellent attention to detail.
- An interest in collecting, structuring, validating, analysing, and interpreting medical data.
- The ability to communicate statistical concepts and findings clearly to colleagues from different professional backgrounds.
- Good organizational, communication, and collaboration skills.
- A proactive, flexible, and solution-oriented attitude.
- The ability to work independently, set priorities, and take ownership of assigned tasks.
- Transparent and professional communication within a small team.
- A high level of discretion and respect for professional confidentiality.
- Full professional proficiency in English. Proficiency in Dutch and/or French is a strong asset.
- The candidate must **currently reside in Belgium**.
- The candidate must be **legally entitled to work in Belgium**.
- BIRD does not provide visa, work-permit, or relocation sponsorship for this position.
- A valid category B driving licence and willingness to travel occasionally to hospitals and other locations across Belgium are required.

Experience with clinical registries, clinical studies, electronic data-capture systems, data visualization tools, or medical research is an asset but is **not required**.

Applications from recent graduates and early-career candidates are welcome, provided they are comfortable working independently and taking responsibility for their work.

What We Offer

- A part-time position at **25–50% FTE** on a one-year contract.
- The exact employment percentage will be agreed based on the candidate's availability and the needs of the organization.
- A strong possibility of extension.
- A primarily home-based position with flexible working arrangements.
- Occasional in-person meetings and travel to hospitals or other locations across Belgium.
- A high degree of autonomy and flexibility.

- The opportunity to work in a dynamic and growing non-profit organization dedicated to improving patient care through research and education.
- An ideal opportunity for a junior professional to gain hands-on experience in biostatistics, clinical data management, data-quality monitoring, and clinical research.
- A varied role combining data analysis, clinical data management, research, and collaboration.
- The opportunity to contribute to the further development of a national clinical IBD registry.
- Hands-on experience in multicentre, investigator-initiated clinical research.
- A broad professional network spanning academia, clinical practice, public institutions, and industry at both national and international levels.
- Supportive and enthusiastic colleagues with diverse areas of expertise.
- A competitive salary based on qualifications and experience.
- Extra-legal benefits, including meal vouchers, a home-working allowance, group insurance, a mobile phone and subscription, and a laptop.
- The opportunity to contribute directly to better care and outcomes for people living with IBD.

How To Apply

Please submit:

- A motivation letter explaining your interest in the position and how your background matches the profile.
- A full curriculum vitae, including your contact details.
- The contact details of two professional or academic references.
- Your current place of residence.

Please send your application to **Ingrid Arijs** at ingrid.arijs@birdgroup.be mentioning **“Application Junior Biostatistician”** in the subject line.

This is an open vacancy. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and the position will remain open until a suitable candidate has been identified.

Please note that applications from candidates who are not currently residing in Belgium will not be considered.

For further information about the position, please contact Ingrid Arijs at the same email address.

We look forward to your application!