The Mervyn W. Susser Post-doctoral Research Fellowship Program aims to support young investigators to develop research careers studying prevention and treatment of adverse outcomes that arise in the early phases of life, including neurodevelopmental conditions of childhood and pediatric HIV infection. Exposures that occur in the pre- and perinatal period that may affect later outcomes are of special interest.

Background:
This Fellowship program has been established in honor of Dr. Mervyn W. Susser, the founding director of the Gertrude H. Sergievsky Center. Dr. Susser had a vision of strengthening epidemiological research on epilepsy and neurodevelopmental disorders in childhood. Dr. Susser was one of the founding figures in the discipline of epidemiology, developing fundamental theory of causality underlying etiological and preventive research in the health sciences. This work lay the foundation and gave impetus to the field currently known as fetal origins of adult health and the approach currently called life-course epidemiology. Towards the end of his career, he was studying ways to reduce the neurological and cognitive sequelae of being born preterm.

Training Components:
• Fellows will be integrated into the multi-disciplinary team of faculty within the GH Sergievsky Center and will be linked with affiliated faculty in other departments and centers across the Columbia University Medical Center.
• An individually-tailored, mentored research training plan will be established for each fellow.
  • Mentored research
  • Mentored-support for grant writing
  • Facilitating linkage to related research in other departments and centers
• Fellows will be supported for two years

Eligibility Criteria:
• PhD or equivalent (e.g., DrPH, DSc) in the health sciences, or MD with at least master’s level training in research methodology.
• Intention to pursue academic research career in population-level research
• Interested in research topic related to childhood neurodevelopment conditions or perinatal HIV

How to Apply:
• Please send a letter of interest, resume, and names of 3 references to Dr. Louise Kuhn, G. H. Sergievsky Center, Columbia University, 630 West 168th Street, P&S Unit 16, New York, NY 10032 or by email: lk24@cumc.columbia.edu.
• Further information will be requested from short-listed candidates including letters of recommendation
• Application deadline: February 1, 2016.
• Candidates will be considered for a start date of June 2016.