Health Informatics/Electronic Health Records Advisor, King's Sierra Leone Partnership

Terms of Reference

Start Date: November 2018 or ASAP	Placement Duration: 6 months with possibility for extension
Location: Freetown, Sierra Leone	Reporting to: Project Implementation Coordinator / Research Lead

The Function

The King's Sierra Leone Partnership (KSLP) is a long-term capacity building partnership between King's Health Partners in London and key partner institutions in Sierra Leone. KSLP aims to help strengthen Sierra Leone's health system by improving training, clinical services, policy and research. Key partners include University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospital Complex Connaught Hospital, the College of Medicine & Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS) and the Ministry of Health & Sanitation (MOHS).

At Connaught, there is currently no integrated EHR or EMR system, and whilst numerous systems exist for specific conditions/programmes (HIV, Malaria) there is a high level of fragmentation, inaccessibility of patient data, unreliability of data and a high data burden due to a complex and primarily paper-based system. The national digital health strategy in Sierra Leone aims to have a fully integrated electronic patient record by 2023. To improve quality of care through accessible and useable patient data and to assist in preparing Connaught in the transition to an electronic system, the partnership seeks to provide support to scope, design, pilot and implement a series of appropriate and contextualised EHR solutions.

The Role

KSLP is looking to recruit an electronic health records specialist for its in-country team from November 2018. The candidate will be the technical lead within KSLP/Connaught hospital, providing technical, strategic, programmatic advice and direction for the development and implementation of EHR, with a focus on a Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) pilot.

She/he will develop and lead the implementation of a LIMS systems, lead the strategic planning for an EHR and ensure interoperability with plans for regional and national scale-up to electronic health records solution by 2023.

The candidate will identify and manage appropriate IT infrastructure (hybrid LAN, and datacentre) and operationalise suitable software systems such as C4G BLIS. She/he will also design capacity building and business continuity plans and facilitate formal training and continued mentorship to relevant team members.

Person Specification

Qualifications:
- Undergraduate degree in information/computer science, data science, health informatics or related field required
- Postgraduate degree and qualifications in project management or training are desirable

Experience:
- Proven experience in design and implementation of health information systems, in particular open source systems
- Experience and/or knowledge of Health IT systems, software and hardware needs and constraints in LMIC contexts
- Experience and interest in training and mentorship and ability to design training tools for staff
- Experience with IT governance, database design and management
- Strong written and verbal communication skills in English

Desirable:
- Previous experience working in a resource constrained setting
- Experience in change management and ability to lead facility wide health information strengthening activities
- Ability to lead high level discussions with hospital management and national decision makers to influence change and policy

Personal Characteristics:
- Excellent interpersonal and intercultural skills, as well as confidence working with senior colleagues
- Skilled at multitasking and prioritising, working independently with minimal supervision and leading and designing projects

Support Provided to Volunteers

This is a 6-month unpaid voluntary position, with possible extension to one year, but the post holder will be provided with:

- Return flights to and from initial post, plus one paid leave flight to and from Freetown for every six months in post
- £500 monthly stipend for living expenses, paid in local currency
- Multi-entry visa, residency permit & professional registration
- Vaccinations & antimalarials
- Insurance
- Accommodation in a shared KSLP house

To Apply: Submit a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) and CV (maximum 4 pages) to volunteer@kslp.org.uk. Please include the role title in the subject line of the email. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.