Infectious Diseases (Funded), King’s Sierra Leone Partnership

Terms of Reference

Start Date: Rolling applications for start as soon as possible  Placement Duration: Post ending 31 July 2020
Planned start: January or February 2020  Reporting to: Project Implementation Coordinator
Location: Freetown, Sierra Leone

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).

As the adult tertiary referral hospital, Connaught provides specialist inpatient services for people living with HIV and has the largest outpatient clinic in the country. KSLP supports our partners in health system strengthening projects at Connaught Hospital aimed at improving the quality of care. One of these is around systems strengthening to improve hospital-based care for malaria and non-malarial fever. The project has been running since 2017 and has a team of 5 people including laboratory scientists, information technology specialists, social workers and an infectious diseases doctor. We have focussed on teaching and training on infectious diseases to healthcare workers, quality and systems improvements related to the laboratory and diagnostic pathways, while also working with the pharmacy to build their capacity in recording and reporting on malaria medications. Other areas this project is covering is patient advocacy and process mapping to improve access to healthcare.

The Role

KSLP is looking to recruit an Infectious Diseases doctor for its in-country team as soon as possible. This person will be based at Connaught Hospital in Freetown and will have a critical role in:

- Mentorship of junior and trainee clinicians in the assessment and management of medical patients, with a focus on those presenting with fever
- Help partners to improve the protocols and systems around diagnosis and management of infectious diseases
- Supporting partners on teaching and training around Infectious Diseases and related topics
- Work closely with other KSLP team members and partners who work in the clinical space to deliver on a shared goal of improved patient care and supporting the process of developing skilled healthcare professionals
- Work with partners on support to provision of sustainable quality patient care in the chest (TB) clinic and the infectious diseases unit

Person Specification

- **Qualifications:** A medical degree with professional registration in home country (essential). Postgraduate qualification in infectious diseases would be advantageous, as would a qualification in education.
- **Experience:** A minimum of 4 years clinical work experience (essential), with specialist training in infectious diseases, applicants with ≥ 6 months in infectious diseases will be considered. Desirable experience: Working on health systems strengthening in resource-constrained settings; quality improvement and guideline development; teaching and mentorship
- **Personal Characteristics:** Excellent interpersonal and intercultural skills, as well as confidence working within a multicultural team and with senior staff from partner institutions; skilled at multitasking and prioritising, working independently with minimal supervision, an ability to work flexibly to changing priorities, and an appreciation for the value of partnership working.

Support Provided to Volunteers

This is an unpaid voluntary position, but the post holder will be provided with:

- Pre-departure and in country induction
- Return flights to and from initial post, plus one paid return flight from Freetown for annual leave per 6 months
- £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.