

JOB DESCRIPTION

POST	Clinical Research Associate
CONTRACT	Fixed term
REFERENCE NO	528-19
REPORTS TO	Stephen Allen
ROLE PURPOSE/SUMMARY	This post will provide clinical, research and organisational support to the Gut Health workstream of the GCRF Action Against Stunting Hub.
SCOPE/BACKGROUND	<p>The GCRF Action Against Stunting Hub, led by the London International Development Centre (LIDC), combines expertise from several different disciplines to develop a new typology of stunting in young children in LMICs. The aim is to provide fresh insights to develop innovative and novel interventions to prevent and ameliorate stunting. The research is organised in inter-related workstreams and include epigenetics, microbiome, nutrition, early child development and home, education and food environments. The Hub will recruit observational cohorts of 600 newborns in Kaffrine District, Senegal, urban Hyderabad, India and East Lombok, Indonesia with follow-up to age 2 years.</p> <p>The Gut Health workstream, led by LSTM, will monitor biomarkers of gut health in blood and stool samples, growth, episodes of illness and mortality up to age 2 years. The effects of a synbiotic intervention from birth to age 6 months on linear growth and gut health biomarkers will also be assessed in a prospective, randomised trial in infants in Senegal.</p> <p>The Post holder will be based at LSTM but provide support remotely and during extended site visits to the three in-country teams. Support will be provided with data collection, management and analysis, sample collection and analysis and interpretation of findings in the observation cohorts and interventional study.</p> <p>The post holder will be expected to undertake teaching and training responsibilities as part of the Department of Clinical Sciences, LSTM.</p> <p>Further information about the Stunting Hub can be found at: https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=MR%2FS01313X%2F1</p>

ROLE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	KEY ACTIONS These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved
1	Delivering the Gut Health workstream: observational cohorts	Maintain close and frequent contact with the in-country teams and other workstream leads both remotely and during site visits Ensure SOPs are developed, maintained, updated and fully implemented Manage troubleshooting issues as they arise remotely and during site visits Ensure that reporting of episodes of illness and mortality is harmonised across the research sites Liaise with in-country teams to ensure that all supplies necessary to complete the research, including the laboratory analysis, are available Oversee laboratory analyses and review laboratory findings Manage the budget and supply chain for the observational study

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		<p>Actively contribute to data management and analysis, interpretation of findings and writing reports for publication</p> <p>Liaise with in-country teams and other workstream leads to optimise successful completion of all Hub activities</p> <p>Disseminate Hub findings</p>
2	Synbiotic intervention study in Kaffrine District, Senegal	<p>Support the in-country team in all aspects of the intervention trial</p> <p>Ensure that robust processes for the reporting and management of adverse events are followed</p> <p>Update Gut Health workstream lead on recruitment and challenges to ensure adequate recruitment</p> <p>Support the initial training and refresher training of the study staff</p> <p>Ensure the collection and management of high quality, accurate data</p> <p>Draft reports to funders, ethics committees and other organisations as required</p> <p>Actively contribute to data management and analysis, interpretation of findings and writing reports for publication</p> <p>Manage the budget and supply chain for the intervention study</p>
3	Department of Clinical Sciences (DoCS), LSTM	<p>Contribute to teaching of diploma, MSc and other students in global child health and research</p> <p>Contribute to research meetings, journal club and other DoCS activities including joint activities with the International Child Health and research groups at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool.</p>

FURTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES	KEY ACTIONS These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved
1	General	<p>Promote equality of opportunity and inclusive practice in all aspects of work undertaken</p> <p>Act in a manner that safeguards children and/or vulnerable adults as applicable to the role</p> <p>Any other duties commensurate with the grade and nature of the role</p>

PERSON SPECIFICATION

POST	Clinical Research Associate
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COMPETENCY CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL/ DESIRABLE	ASSESSMENT
Qualifications, Training & Knowledge		
Medical degree	Essential	Application/Interview
Working clinical knowledge of child health and managing sick children in LMIC settings	Essential	Application/Interview
Understanding of clinical research	Essential	Application/Interview
Membership of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health or equivalent	Desirable	Application/Interview
DTM&H or MSc in a relevant subject area	Desirable	Application/Interview
Experience		
Previous engagement in clinical research in child health	Essential	Application/Interview
At least two years graduate clinical experience	Essential	Application
Experience of clinical work in a resource-poor setting	Essential	Application/Interview
Good track record in attracting research grant funding	Desirable	Application/Interview
Experience of research in LMICs	Desirable	Application/Interview
Record of publishing original research in peer-reviewed journals	Desirable	Application/Interview
Skills & Behaviours		
Knowledge and behaviours that support equality, diversity and inclusive practice	Essential	Application/Interview
Knowledge and behaviours that support safeguarding as applicable to the role	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to work flexibly in challenging environments	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary team as well as independently	Essential	Application/Interview
Excellent organisational/administrative skills	Essential	Application/Interview
Excellent communication skills with the ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing with meticulous attention to detail	Essential	Application/Interview
Computer literate with working knowledge of MS Office applications	Essential	Application/Interview
Excellent time management	Essential	Application/Interview
Proactive and enthusiastic approach to work	Essential	Application/Interview
Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to foster collaborative relationships	Essential	Application/Interview
Sensitivity to a variety of cultures	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to show initiative, provide solutions to problems and have the confidence in taking decisions	Essential	Application/Interview
Demonstrable teaching skills, with the ability to teach postgraduate students	Desirable	Application/Interview
Circumstances		
The post will be based at the LSTM, Liverpool but require frequent site visits to Senegal, India and Indonesia. It is expected that about 50% of the time will be spent overseas.	Essential	Application/Interview