



## **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

### **EXTERNAL JOB VACANCIES (PROJECT POSITIONS)**

Applications are invited for the following position:

#### **RESEARCH ASSISTANT, KENYA AIDS VACCINE INITIATIVE - INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL RESEARCH (KAVI-ICR) - AD/11/213/21 - 1 POST**

#### **The Position**

The NIHR Global Health Unit on the Prevention and Management of Stillbirths and Neonatal Deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, led from the Centre for Childbirth, Women's and New-born Health at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine UK, is an established equitable multidisciplinary partnership between Africa, Asia and UK-based researchers. As an international centre of research excellence, our goal is to end preventable stillbirths and new-born deaths, ensure adequate support for parents and families whose baby dies and reduce associated stigma.

Using a whole systems approach, we work across high burden settings in India, Kenya, Malawi, Pakistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We aim to develop, test and implement sustainable and cost-effective solutions to strengthen maternity and new-born care, reducing mortality and morbidity through high-quality, respectful and compassionate maternity and new-born care. Activities cover the entire spectrum of maternal and new-born health from preconception to post/neonatal care, with a strong focus on meaningful community and stakeholder partnerships. We co-produce research with women, families, front-line health workers and policy makers. We have methodological expertise across development including evidence synthesis, exploratory (qualitative and quantitative approaches), core outcomes sets, clinical trials and implementation research.

Capacity strengthening for maternal and new-born health research, across all partner countries is embedded throughout the Unit. We have a particular, but not exclusive, interest and experience in developing midwifery and nursing research capacity to address global shortages in these disciplines. Our development programmes span masters, PhD and post-doctoral fellowships as well as project specific and institutional skills training.

#### **Expectation**

The Research Assistant will work on a project related to stillbirth and neonatal death. He /She will contribute to the facility bereavement care, postnatal support and psychological outcomes for parents, families and communities after stillbirth or neonatal death. The focus of the Research Assistant's work will be on ensuring that the project objectives are met. This will include a range of activities including gaining ethical approvals, recruitment and data collection, contributing to data analysis, data management, providing progress reports and liaising with stakeholders, Community Engagement and Involvement (CEI) groups and the wider team. Additional research

activities may also be required, according to the needs of the project. Opportunities for training will be available throughout the programme.

**Location:** University of Nairobi, KAVI - Institute of Clinical Research, Kenya.

**Working Hours:** Full time

### **Overall Purpose of the Job**

- To ensure timely delivery of project objectives
- To fulfil the aims of the research work stream
- To contribute to project reporting, dissemination and publications

### **Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities/Duties:**

#### **Research**

- To support the development of research protocols.
- To secure local ethical and international ethical approvals.
- To carry out recruitment of participants.
- To collect, manage and contribute to analysis of data.
- To meet regularly with CEI groups.
- To contribute to monitoring and evaluation activities.
- To work within research governance, ethical and safeguarding principles.

#### **Team Work**

- To assist in the co-ordination of local meetings and to contribute to activities outlined in the Communication Plan.

#### **Planning**

- To manage own research and administrative activities in line with project activities.

#### **Communication**

- Report regularly to the Work Stream lead [and research co-ordinator] on project activities.
- Disseminate research findings, locally, nationally and internationally, through oral presentations and electronic media.
- Contribute to research publications.
- Build internal contacts and join external networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.

### **Person Specifications:**

Knowledge, skills and experience

- Experience of recent working in maternity care.
- Experience of multi-disciplinary working.
- Research experience in an academic and/or relevant health care setting.
- Methodological expertise relevant to the programme.
- Good overall understanding of research methods and evaluation research.
- Ability to read critique and synthesize research literature.

### **Interpersonal Skills**

- Self-motivated and able to work flexibly independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Able to liaise and work professionally, collaboratively and effectively with local and international partners.
- Experience in interactions with key stakeholders and facilitation of meetings.

### **Project Skills**

- Information technology literate including high proficiency in using MS Word and PowerPoint.
- Attention to detail and highly developed organizational skills.
- Able to manage own work on a day-to-day basis.
- Able to prioritize workload and manage time.
- Able to work to tight deadlines.
- Excellent report writing skills.

### **Others**

- Excellent written and oral communication skills with a high level of attention to detail and ability to communicate to scientific, lay and stakeholder audiences.
- Knowledge of developments in policy and practice.
- Willingness to perform a wide range of tasks as directed and as required.

### **Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

- Registered Midwife, Nurse or allied health professional.
- Experience of working with LAMRN (Including membership).
- 1<sup>st</sup> or upper second-class honours degree in relevant subject or
- Experience/knowledge of participatory research approaches.
- Experience of clinical trials.
- Experience of qualitative methods and analysis.
- Familiarity with data collection software; such as RedCap.
- Experience of engagement with CEI groups.
- Experience in data management and analysis.
- Familiar with regional approaches to healthcare.
- A record of publications and other dissemination activities.

### **Terms of Appointment**

This a one year contract renewable based on performance and by mutual consent. The salary is Ksh. 1.78 million per annum.

### **NOTES**

1. Applicants should email their application letters, certified copies of certificates and curriculum vitae (CV) giving details of their qualifications, experience and three (3) referees as well as indicating their telephone and e-mail contacts.

2. Applications and related documents should be forwarded through applicants' Heads of Departments, where applicable, and be addressed to the Director, Human Resource, University of Nairobi.
3. Applicants should state their current designations, salaries and other benefits attached to those designations.
4. The application letter must bear the reference code indicated in the advertisement.
5. Late applications will not be considered.
6. Applications should be emailed to [recruit-rakicr@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:recruit-rakicr@uonbi.ac.ke) as one file in PDF.

**CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
ONLY SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE CONTACTED**

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