

July 30, 2019

Vacancy Announcement

Child Health and Mortality Surveillance (CHAMPS) Ethiopia

Quality Assurance Officer and Medical Laboratory Technologist

We are seeking to appoint a full time multi-skilled and experienced Quality Assurance Officer and Medical Laboratory Technologist to be based in Harar, Ethiopia. The role is to support development of a medical research laboratory of a new Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance site in Harar, Ethiopia. This is a collaboration between Haramaya University, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Emory Global Health Institute.

CHAMPS laboratories are located at the College of Health and Medical Sciences, and at Hiwot Fana Hospital in Harar at present, although laboratory work in Kersa District is possible in the long term.

The Child Health and Mortality Surveillance Program is seeking applications from energetic, motivated and innovative people interested in becoming part of the exciting new phase of developing a quality assurance program within the Hararghe Health Research Partnership laboratories.

HARAMAYA UNIVERSITY, OROMIA, ETHIOPIA

Haramaya University is one of the oldest Universities in Ethiopia, with its first intake in 1954. It is about 17km from the city of Harar, 40km from Dire Dawa (where there is a regional airport), and 510km East of Addis Ababa. The College of Health and Medical Sciences is based on a campus in Harar town to facilitate training of students in nearby hospitals. This campus also hosts the office of the two Health and Demographic Surveillance Systems (HDSS).

CHILD HEALTH AND MORTALITY PREVENTION SURVEILLANCE NETWORK (CHAMPS)

The Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance network (CHAMPS, <http://champshealth.org>) is a new global health surveillance network funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, aimed at understanding the causes of child death in developing countries, particularly sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. The Emory Global Health Institute, which houses the U.S. office of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), is the lead partner in the network and has worked with the London School of Hygiene to develop the collaboration with Haramaya University.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post:	Quality Assurance Officer and Medical Laboratory Technologist
Location	Haramaya University, Oromia, Ethiopia
Responsible to:	Laboratory Head
Full Time/Part Time/Casual:	Full time
No. of posts	1
Duration of contract	1 year with possible extension
Salary:	12,000 Birr per month

Place of Application

- Haramaya University Human Resource and Development Directorate office, Administration Building 1st Floor, Room No. 114 at Haramaya
- Haramaya University College of Health and Medical Sciences, Human Resource Management and Development Associate Director Office, No.7 at Harar.
- Haramaya University Liaison Office at Addis Ababa, Arat Kilo. Former Germany Cultural Institute Building Office No.15.

Deadline for Application Within 10 (Ten) Working days after the announcement of this vacancy

Key Responsibilities

The successful applicant will be responsible for all the Quality Assurance aspects of the Hararghe Health Research laboratories (HHR) in Harar. S/he will work closely with the laboratory staff, data analysts and field workers and will work as part of the HHR Laboratory team under the Laboratory Director. His/her functions will be, but not be limited to the following;

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities

1. Oversee a quality control program appropriate for tests performed in the HHR Laboratories.
2. Implement improvements to laboratory testing procedures to improve efficiency, resource utilization, decrease turnaround time, etc., utilizing new and established laboratory policies and procedures.
3. Develop, perform, and manage an audit program that encompasses all phases of laboratory practices and field sample collection and provide assurance that, documentation, and record-keeping requirements are met.
4. Perform scheduled and unscheduled checks on bench scientists, Technologists and Technicians.
5. Administer the proficiency testing and External Quality Assurance schemes.
6. Maintain current and accurate records of all relevant communications, audits, corrective action plans, and effectiveness monitoring.

7. Maintain current and accurate records of all personnel qualifications, certifications and contact information.
8. Review, track and communicate information regarding process variations and quality control samples as required by laboratory quality assurance procedures.
9. Check validation systems for all pieces of equipment to ensure maximal function (service schedules, daily panel runs, etc.)
10. Ensure daily maintenance charts are well documented.
11. Perform/supervise training and its documentation for lab staff.
12. Review and maintain all laboratory SOPs
13. Review test results and reports for accuracy, completeness and compliance to requirements to ensure that quality assurance standards and regulatory requirements are met.
14. Maintain familiarity with laboratory procedures in order to effectively perform laboratory quality assurance functions.
15. Liaise with the other CHAMPS groups in developing and implementing HHR QA GCP/GLP objectives
16. Train staff on quality control/assurance issues.
17. Plan and work towards ensuring HHR laboratories achieving ISO 15189 accreditation, national accreditation, and/or are clinical trials accredited.
18. Perform other duties as assigned by the laboratory Director, laboratory supervisor or Principal Investigator.

Essential requirements

- Must hold a Bachelor's degree in Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Science, Medical Technology or equivalent
- At least two years' experience in research/clinical diagnostics activities
- Good knowledge of GLP/GCLP
- Masters of Science degree in the relevant field will be an added advantage

Desirable Qualities:

- Fluency in both written and spoken English
- Ability to work and make decisions independently.
- Excellent communication skills,
- Ability to work well in a team,
- Proven leadership skills, and ability to take initiative