

Draft Advertisement

Post of Research Assistant

Invasive Bacterial Surveillance funded by WHO/SEARO
Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health Indigenous Medicine
"Suwasiripaya"
Colombo 10

Background of the Study

The WHO has commenced surveillance of Invasive Bacterial activity in selected countries. The objective of this surveillance is to bridge the gap of data required for decision making process to introduce Pneumococcal vaccine into the Expanded Programme on Immunization. These surveillance activities will be carried out at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital.

Duties & Responsibilities

Selection of eligible Pneumonia, Sepsis and meningitis patients for the Pneumococcal study
Obtaining clinical and epidemiological data
Obtaining clinical specimen and delivery to the LRH laboratory
Submission of collected data and test results to the Epidemiology Unit
Provision of feedbacks from the Epidemiology Unit to the clinicians at the LRH

Desired qualifications for the post

MBBS or an equivalent medical degree

Experience required for the post

Candidate should be necessarily conversant in analytical software SPSS, SAS or EPI Info
Candidates with previous experience on community based research will be given preference
Candidates should be available to work round the clock-24/7

Age limit: Not more than 35 years as at the date of closure of application

Salary : LKR 30250.00 per month

Duration : on contract basis, for a period of one Year

Candidates are invited to submit their complete CV, including copies of relevant documents contact details and references on or before February 10, 2015 to the following address;

Chief Epidemiologist
Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health Indigenous Medicine
231, De Saram Place
Colombo 10

Only short listed applicants will be called for the interview. The final decision with regard to selection will be made by the Ministry of Health Indigenous Medicine.

Deputy Director General (Planning)
Ministry of Health Indigenous Medicine

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE POST OF RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Work-plan/OSER/ Product/ Activity/ Exp. Type: SEA-2013-B8-APW-006

INVASIVE BACTERIAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AT THE LADY RIDGEWAY HOSPITAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY UNIT

Background:

Epidemiology Unit of the Ministry of Health has initiated surveillance of invasive bacterial diseases at the LRH with a view to bridging the gap of data required for introduction of pneumococcal vaccine into the EPI. This project named Invasive Bacterial Disease (IBD) surveillance is funded by the World Health Organization.

The overall objectives of the project are to assess the burden of pneumococcal, Hib and other invasive bacterial diseases in relation to the Sri Lankan context through surveillance and explore opportunities for prevention through vaccination. Specific objectives of the project are:

1. Expanding and strengthening pneumococcal, Hib and other invasive bacterial disease surveillance in Sri Lanka with a view to enhancing the capacity for national surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases.
2. Sustaining on going surveillance at the LRH and further enhance the capacity of the microbiological laboratory at the LRH
3. Determining serotype distribution of relevant pathogens in Sri Lanka
4. Describing antimicrobial resistance of isolated relevant pathogens
5. Providing comprehensive information to the national policy and decision makers to assist them in formulating policies pertaining to control and prevention of invasive bacterial diseases.

Scope of the Work:

Selection of eligible pneumonia, sepsis and meningitis patients for the pneumococcal study

Obtaining clinical and epidemiological data,

Obtaining clinical specimens and delivery to the LRH laboratory

Submission of collected data and test results to the Epidemiology Unit

Provision of feedbacks from the Epidemiology Unit to the clinicians and the microbiologist at the LRH

Duration: For Six Month

Desired qualification and experience of the post

Possessing a medical degree (MBBS or equivalent degree recognized by the SLMC)
Good command of English and Sinhalese or Tamil languages
Previous research experience as a medical student
Ability to carry out functions listed above efficiently within a given frame of time
Possessing good PR capacity to coordinate with LRH clinicians, Microbiologists and medical officers and the rest of the staff

Expected output

Daily visiting the LRH wards and meeting all admitted pneumonia, sepsis and meningitis patients of under five years of age
Screening of eligible patients for the study
Explaining and obtaining consent from parents for participation in the study
Collection of details of specimens taken from selected participants at the LRH wards
Completion of questionnaire for each participant
Daily checks of antigen test, culture and ABST results of specimens at the LRH microbiology lab.
Weekly submission of questionnaires to the Epidemiology Unit
Coordination with the consultant microbiologist to obtain test results when required
Maintain liaison with relevant stakeholders at the Epidemiology Unit, LRH lab and the ward staff of the LRH
Delivering test kits from the Epidemiology Unit to the LRH laboratory
Assist the Principal investigator in any additional work within the scope mentioned in the TOR

Nature of work

Full time/ part time : Full time
No. of days per week : 05 days
Working hours per day : 08 hours. 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Monthly remuneration : LKR 30,250.00 per month


Signature of Component Director

Dr. (Mrs.) Paba Palihawadana
Chief Epidemiologist
Epidemiology Unit
231, De Saram Place,
Colombo 10.