

## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>POST</b>	<b>Senior Research Associate (Midwifery) Maternal &amp; Newborn Health</b>
<b>CONTRACT</b>	Fixed Term
<b>REFERENCE NO</b>	69390
<b>REPORTS TO</b>	Head of Emergency Obstetric Care and Quality of Care Unit
<b>ROLE PURPOSE/SUMMARY</b>	<p>Every day in 2017, approximately 810 women died from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. The maternal mortality ratio fell by 38 percent between 2000 and 2017, from 342 deaths to 211 deaths per 100,000 livebirths worldwide. Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia account for about 86 percent of maternal deaths globally. To meet the global Sustainable Development Goal of 70 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, equitable access to skilled health personnel needs to be scaled up. To accelerate reductions in the risk of death during pregnancy and childbirth, and end preventable maternal mortality, interventions to improve quality of care need to be prioritised in low resource settings.</p> <p>To strengthen midwifery education/training and practice, WHO's <a href="#">Strengthening quality midwifery education for Universal Health Coverage 2030: Framework for Action</a> recommends that midwives and midwifery educators should participate in relevant mandatory accredited continuous professional development (CPD) programmes for safe, competent and effective practice to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) &amp; <a href="#">maternal and newborn health (MNH) SDGs</a>. However, <a href="#">evidence from a systematic review in 2020</a> revealed that only 16 (34.7%) WHO Afro region states had instituted CPD points as a mandatory measure to ensure up-to-date skilled, relevant practitioners. This clearly demonstrates that CPD is under-utilised and therefore need to strengthen this critical opportunity for a competent midwifery educator and graduates.</p> <p><a href="#">Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM)</a> supports implementation of pre-service interventions that focus on improving the quality of pre-service midwifery and reproductive health education and training in LMICs.</p>

**SCOPE/BACKGROUND**

The Emergency Obstetric Care and Quality of Care Unit, Department of International Public Health, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine has 3 main objectives, aligned to the mission and vision of LSTM:

- To conduct research on ways to reduce maternal mortality/morbidity through improving quality of care.
- To combine rigorous research with capacity strengthening and technical support to optimise impact.
- To work in partnership with policy makers and local research leaders to ensure research is relevant to local needs and informs policy considerations.

The unit offers unique expertise in using the rigorous discipline of research to inform teaching and technical assistance programmes to improve the health of mothers and babies globally.

The Senior Research Associate (Midwifery) will work with Head of Emergency Obstetric Care and Quality of Care Unit, the pre-service midwifery education team and the Global Fund Quality of Care implementation research team, to develop and deliver research, teaching and technical assistance in Maternal and Newborn Health internationally.

Specifically, the post holder will and provide technical support to the Alliance for Improving Midwifery Education (AIME)

The post will be based in Nairobi Kenya; however, duties may require overseas travel including about 4 visits a year to Liverpool United Kingdom.

## ROLE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

	<b>KEY RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	<b>KEY ACTIONS</b> <b>These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved</b>
1	<b>Provide support to the delivery and evaluation of complex interventions to improve midwifery education and Maternal and Newborn Health globally</b>	<p>Lead technical support for midwifery educator development, development, and investigations effectiveness of midwifery pre-service curriculum</p> <p>Contribute to the evaluation of MNH QoC programmes</p> <p>Manage key stakeholders and partners in specific GF MNH QoC programme countries</p> <p>Contribute to the implementation of ethically sound implementation research under the GF QoC MNH programme</p> <p>Develop systems to monitor and track inputs and expected outputs under the GF QoC MNH programme</p> <p>Contribute to regular reporting and dissemination of outputs from the GF MNH QoC programme</p>
2	<b>Support design, implementation, reporting and dissemination of implementation research</b>	<p>Working with the Head of the EmOC&amp;QoC unit and other GF programme team members design implementation research including tools.</p> <p>To supervise relevant PhDs in the EmOC&amp;QoC unit</p> <p>Design training materials to train data collectors, SOPs for data collection, databases to manage data</p> <p>Oversee the development and conduct of baseline and impact surveys</p> <p>Collate and report on challenges faced and lessons learnt as part of implementation research</p> <p>To contribute to analysis or support the analysis of research/programme data with input from senior statistician</p> <p>Contribute to the development of country and programme log frames, monitoring and evaluation frameworks</p> <p>Contribute to the recruitment of post docs and PhDs</p> <p>In collaboration with global partners develop new research proposals in line with the objectives of the unit</p> <p>Assist with dissemination of programme/research outputs via writing of project reports, publications for peer reviewed journals, technical briefs, and success stories.</p> <p>Lead grant proposal identification, writing and submission and contribute to development of larger multicounty proposals</p> <p>Visit in country study teams to improve capacity and quality assure processes and systems</p> <p>Provide technical assistance on successful bids when need for expertise identified.</p>
3	<b>Contribute to teaching at LSTM</b>	<p>Lecture and supervise student projects, the DTM&amp;H, DTN and master's in international public health (Sexual and Reproductive Health Pathway) and PhDs</p>

4	<b>Line management responsibility</b>	To supervise and support all technical staff in countries where implementation research is conducted  To line manage post doc researcher assistant
5	<b>Provide functional guidance and support to research assistants and in-county midwifery technical officers</b>	Co-ordinate team inputs to ensure successful delivery of project activities when taking the lead for projects or specific project outputs  Provide mentoring opportunities to research assistants and in-county midwifery technical officers  Present work within team and research collaboration meetings

#### FURTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

	<b>KEY RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	<b>KEY ACTIONS</b> <b>These set out how the Key Responsibilities will be achieved</b>
1	<b>General</b>	Promote equality of opportunity and inclusive practice in all aspects of work undertaken  Act in a manner that safeguards children and/or vulnerable adults as applicable to the role  Any other duties commensurate with the grade and nature of the role  Develop and maintain meaningful working relationships with LSTM colleagues and a variety of partners at national and international level.  Represent EmOC&QoC team in meetings, international events, and fora.  Participate in IPH and LSTM wide activities

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

<b>POST</b>	<b>Senior Research Associate Maternal &amp; Newborn Health</b>
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<b>COMPETENCY CRITERIA</b>	<b>ESSENTIAL/ DESIRABLE</b>	<b>WHERE MEASURED</b>
<b>Qualifications &amp; Training</b>		
Educated to Degree Level or equivalent, (MPH essential)	Essential	Application and interview
Demonstrable knowledge of Global Health, midwifery education and challenges of working in resource poor settings, especially with respect to MNH	Essential	Application and interview
Educated to PhD Level	Essential	Application and interview
Relevant midwifery clinical qualification	Essential	Application and interview
<b>Skills &amp; Experience</b>		
Experience supervising PhD students	Desirable	Application and interview
Experience in designing and evaluating midwifery education interventions (curriculum, mentoring, faculty development etc)	Essential	Application and interview
Successful work experience in sun-Saharan African countries with evidence of high-quality assessment standards which will be evidenced in references	Essential	Application/Interview
Clinical field experience in maternal and newborn health in a low or middle-income country setting, undertaking duties such as supervision of labour ward staff and organisation of maternity services	Essential	Application/Interview
Previous research experience which has led to authorship on peer reviewed publications	Essential	Application/Interview
Extensive experience of performance tracking against agreed timelines and milestones.	Essential	Application and interview
Previous experience of completing research ethics applications	Essential	Application/Interview
Previous experience of performing a systematic review	Essential	Application/Interview
Previous experience of grant proposal writing	Essential	Application/Interview
Experience of overseeing and leading teams	Essential	Application/Interview
Experience of working to targets and deadlines	Essential	Application/Interview
Experience working with MoH and regulatory bodies	Essential	Application/Interview
Relevant teaching experience at postgraduate level	Desirable	Application/Interview
Experience of supervision of postgraduate research students	Desirable	Application/Interview
Proven ability of high-quality use of language in writing which outlines academic achievements.	Essential	Application/Interview
Proven ability to write research or project proposals.	Essential	Application/Interview
Computer literate	Essential	Application
Experience of designing and developing survey methodologies.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to independently explore literature and collate relevant information and data into databases to be used for further detailed analysis by the project management team	Essential	Application and interview
Demonstrable working knowledge of literature databases and management	Essential	Application/Interview
Experience of providing technical assistance /consultancy.	Desirable	Application/Interview
<b>Knowledge &amp; Behaviours</b>		
Knowledge and behaviours that support equality, diversity, and inclusive practice	Essential	Interview
Knowledge and behaviours that support safeguarding as applicable to the role	Essential	Interview

Working knowledge of evidence-based interventions that improve global MNH outcomes.	Essential	Application/Interview
Knowledge of both quantitative and qualitative research methodology and analytical approach	Essential	Application/Interview
Understanding of the importance of functioning health systems for the successful implementation of MNH interventions	Essential	Interview
Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to work with staff at all levels and the ability to be sensitive in difficult situations.	Essential	Interview
Confident communicator with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing	Essential	Interview
Ability to work productively and co-operatively as a team member and to develop flexible working relationships with academic and non-academic colleagues and students.	Essential	Interview
<b>COMPETENCY CRITERIA</b>		
Excellent verbal and written communication skills with ability to produce high quality reports and present to diverse audiences	Essential	Application and interview
Proficient computer skills with experience with MS Office Software especially Excel, Word, PowerPoint, mapping software (e.g. qGIS) and mHealth survey tools (e.g. Open Data Kit - ODK),	Essential	Application and interview
<b>Circumstances</b>		
The post will be based in Nairobi Kenya; however, duties may require overseas travel including about 4 visits a year to Liverpool United Kingdom.	Essential	Application and interview