Centre for Microbiology Research

KEMRI- RCTP

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: 14th November, 2022

Background Information:

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), in collaboration with the University of North Carolina (UNC) is conducting a research project to evaluate the feasibility and acceptability of self-administered topical therapy to improve HPV and Cervical Pre-Cancer treatment success among women living with HIV within Kisumu and Siaya Counties. The study involves qualitative evaluation using questionnaires, in-depth interviews, and focus groups to evaluate the acceptability of this strategy among women undergoing cervical cancer screening and their male partners, as well as a Phase I pilot clinical trial to evaluate the safety of using self-administered topical therapy in Kenya.

1. Position: Study Coordinator (1 Position) K MR 5 Vacancy No. FN-01-11-2022

Reports to: Study Principal Investigator

Location: **Kisumu/ Siaya**

Duration: **9 Months as per KEMRI Scheme of Service. The first 2 months is a probation period**

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of the study protocols, goals and logistics required to conduct research studies and implementation projects
- Maintain daily oversight of study implementation
- Coordinate study team to ensure proper performance of study and project activities
- Evaluate potential patients for inclusion in the study according to the study protocol
- Oversee the recruitment of study participants by providing counseling and linkage of study participants in conjunction with research assistants
- Perform study visits and clinical assessments of participants, document study procedures, and interpret laboratory results in collaboration with study PIs.
- Ensure participant safety through monitoring of clinical and laboratory adverse events
- Ensure timely reporting of SAEs/UAEs and protocol deviations.
- Take the lead in training and supervising the functions of relevant clinical personnel.
- Ensure participant privacy and confidentiality are maintained
- Overseeing, improving, and coordinating the study implementation in the health facilities and ensuring all services comply with the Quality Management Plan
- Mentoring and supervising clinic staff members in participating sub-counties
- Compiling clinical and study data and regular reports from the study sites
- Developing clinic Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) to be used in the study sites
- Oversee and monitor study budget expenditure
- Maintain relationships with collaborating partners and the MoH

- Work professionally and ethically with competence, accountability, and integrity
- Perform any other relevant duties as assigned by the study PIs
- Works professionally and ethically with competence, accountability, and integrity

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from a recognized training institution.
- Be duly registered by the relevant professional body
- Hold a valid practicing license

Additional desirable qualities

- At least three years' experience working in a clinical trial or research setting – or equivalent, preferably in a supervisory role or with supervisory duties
- Experience working in HIV care, either in a clinical or research setting
- Comfortable working in Siaya and Kisumu County, including in rural clinics and community-based projects
- Be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing in English and preferably Dholuo
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Effective written communication skills, including project reporting, including using MS Word, Power point, and MS Excel

2. Position: Research Assistants (2 Positions) K MR 7 Vacancy No. FN-02-11-2022

Reports to: **Study Coordinator & Study Principal Investigators**

Location: **Kisumu/ Siaya**

Duration: **9 Months as per KEMRI Scheme of Service. The first 3 months is a probation period**

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Mobilize and sensitize facility health workers on cervical cancer screening and prevention
- Conduct health talks to patients on cervical cancer screening and treatment
- Conduct community engagement and entry through meetings and regular communication with key stakeholders on cervical cancer screening.
- Define and manage client flow to cervical cancer screening rooms to eliminate missed opportunities for screenings and treatment
- Ensure all study data collection tools and consent forms are available and kept in a safe lockable cabinet.
- Attend facility departmental and PI meetings sharing study updates
- Conduct pre-test and post- test interviews using tablet computers
- Data collection, entry, and cleaning using REDCap and Open Data Kit (ODK)
- Conduct In-depth interviews and develop transcripts from transcription and translation
- Lead study focus groups with the support of the study coordinator and Principal Investigators
- Conduct participant tracing through phone call reminders, short message service (SMS), and home tracking by the use of locator information
- Other duties as assigned by data management, Study coordinator, or Study Principal Investigators.

Qualifications

- Diploma in Clinical Medicine, Nursing, Community Health, Sociology, and Social Work. A degree in any health-related course will be an added advantage.
- At least two years relevant experience in research or clinical setting, preferably with significant counseling and social science department role
- Experience in working in HIV care or communities affected by HIV/AIDS

- Experience in conducting surveys, in-depth interviews or focus groups, and working in the community will be an added advantage

Other required skills

- Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel
- Data collection and entry experience using REDCap (and/or ODK) (preferred)
- Strong communication skills
- Fluency in English, Kiswahili, and Luo required
- Must be keen and attentive to details and can keenly follow instructions and procedures

3. Position: Data Analyst (1 Position) K MR 6 Vacancy No. FN-03-11-2022

Reports to: **Study Coordinator and Study Principal Investigators**
Location: Kisumu
Duration: **9 Months Contract as per KEMRI Scheme of Service. The first 3 months is a probation period**

Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop study and project data collection tools for specific projects and determine the types and sizes of sample groups to be used in conjunction with study investigators
- Set up and maintain high-quality research databases on REDCap and ODK with other data collection tools.
- Train, supervise, and oversee data collection teams, including clinicians, research assistants, and community health workers, as needed throughout the project to ensure high-quality study data at all levels.
- Responsible for weekly data cleaning and reporting of high-quality research data, as well as identifying and managing threats to data integrity in collaboration with study teams
- Analyze and reports the results of statistical analyses, including information in the form of graphs, charts, and tables.
- Presentation of statistical and non-statistical results using charts, bullets, and graphs in meetings or conferences to audiences such as clients, peers, and students.
- Use various statistical software, methods, and techniques to gather, analyze, and interpret research data to derive useful information for research data.
- Reporting and liaising with trial investigators on the quality of the data, and resolving any errors according to the study protocol.
- Assist in preparing clinical trial documents and reports, protocols, investigator brochures, scientific abstracts, peer-reviewed manuscripts, and responses to requests from regulatory agencies, local Institutional Review Board, and other health authorities.
- Reviews and analyzes safety reporting and other aspects of clinical trial monitoring.
- Assist in planning data collection methods in both facility-based and community-based projects in collaboration with multiple stakeholders
- Help develop and test experimental designs, sampling techniques, and analytical methods.
- Discuss and interpret results with colleagues and collaborators in the trial/study.
- Ensuring deadlines and project milestones relating to data and analyses are met in collaboration with members of the research team and external collaborators as necessary.
- Mentorship and support of junior investigators affiliated with the project.
- Perform any other relevant duties as assigned by the study Coordinator and designated supervisors

Required Qualifications:

- A Degree in mathematics or statistics and 2 years' experience – or equivalent - in a similar position with demonstrated research experience, preferably in the health sciences.

Desirable Qualities:

- Great attention to detail and excellent analytical skills
- Good presentation skills.
- Excellent organizational and communication skills, attention to detail, and the ability to work as part of a team
- Excellent computer skills and familiarity with one or more statistical packages (including Stata, R, SPSS or SAS) or other research databases.
- Excellent skills on REDCap and ODK.
- Prior experience working in HIV care or research
- Demonstrated research experience, preferably in the health sciences.
- Demonstrated experience in writing as evidenced by publications or project reports
- Proficiency with statistical and data management procedures (data cleaning, manipulation, summarization, tables, listings, graphics, and inferential statistical output) and report generation.

How to Apply

a) All applicants must meet each selection criteria detailed in the minimum requirements.
b) Indicate Position & Vacancy Number as the subject of the Email
c) Must include a current CV with names of at least three referees.
d) Must include copies of academic and professional certificates.

A duly signed application letter indicating the vacancy reference with copies of documents listed above should be sent to: **hrrctp@kemri-rctp.org** not later than 2nd December, 2022.

KEMRI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITED TO DIVERSITY;PERSONS WITH DISABILITY, WOMEN, YOUTH AND THOSE FROM MARGINALIZED AREAS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

Only short-listed candidates will be contact.