Centre for Microbiology Research

KEMRI- RCTP

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: 18th January, 2023

Background Information:

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), in collaboration with the University of Cape Town, is currently conducting a research project entitled the Vaginal Microbiome Research Consortium (VMRC) pilot study to better understand what makes a genital tract (vagina) healthy among women in Kenya and South Africa, the nature and function of the microorganisms living in the vagina and whether they are beneficial or harmful to women. In Kenya, the study will be carried out in Kisumu County and we are seeking to fill the following positions within the study:

1.Position: Study Nurse (1 Position) K MR 7 Vacancy No. FN-01-01-2023

Reports to: **Study Clinician**

Location: **Kisumu**

Duration: **1 Year Renewable Contract as per KEMRI Scheme of Service. The first 3 months is a probation period**

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Register and consent study participants and assist with eligibility determination
- Recruit, Screen and enroll study participants
- Understand and execute the study procedures as indicated in the study protocol
- Informed Consent administration per study protocol and collection of participant medical, surgical and reproductive history.
- Administer study questionnaires
- Provide contraceptive counseling, HIV/AIDS counseling and testing and STI risk reduction assessment counselling and support.
- Support in health talks to participants at the clinic and mobilization sources.
- Perform physical including anthropometric measurements and pelvic exam to participants
- Collect blood, urine and genital samples from the participants as required by the study protocol
- Ensure adherence to the participant flow at the clinic.
- Respond to questions about the study posed by participants and the community in consultation with the study clinician.
- Ensure participant retention and adhere to site retention strategies.
- Maintain a good relationship with the community, study participants and other clinic staff.
- Maintain up-to-date participant visit notes
- Administer Case Report Forms (CRFs), accurate recording of data on CRFs and perform self-quality checks

- Monitor drugs and other medical supplies levels and liaise with the study clinician to initiate the procurement process
- Follow up and ensure participants are adhering to study procedures
- Work in collaboration with the study clinician and the Study coordinator to develop, review and train staff on relevant study standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Prepare weekly and monthly progress reports of study activities
- Closely work with other staff members to ensure the success of the study
- Train study staff on the study procedures

Qualifications

- Must have a Diploma in Nursing - Registered Community Health Nurse (KRCHN) with extensive and recent hands-on clinical experience
- Must be registered with the Nursing Council of Kenya.
- More than two (2) years Clinical research experience
- Knowledge of HIV prevention and treatment services
- Knowledge and ability to counsel clients on Sexual and reproductive health and contraceptive use
- Knowledge and experience in managing STI cases will be an added advantage

Additional desirable qualities

- Experience collecting genital samples for research purposes
- Prior experience in reproductive health-related clinical research recruiting women
- Commitment to integrity and high-quality performance
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team
- Keen and attentive to detail
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Articulate in both verbal and written communication in English and Swahili.
- Extensive counseling skills
- Computer literacy
- Experience with data collection using digital tools especially REDCap
- Preferably a female
- Flexible and ready to work during odd hours

2. Position: Study Clinician (1 Position) K MR 7 Vacancy No. FN-02-01-2023

Reports to: Study Coordinator

Location: **Kisumu**

Duration: **1 Year Renewable Contract as per KEMRI Scheme of Service. The first 3 months is a probation period**

Duties and Responsibilities:

- In consultation with study investigations, oversee clinical study procedures and supervise and train clinical staff
- Diagnose participants for various STI conditions or concomitant illnesses and manage them appropriately including referring where necessary
- Prescribe drugs to treat any STI conditions or other concomitant illnesses that a participant may present with
- Advice the rest of the study team on steps to take on a participant depending on their condition
- Collect blood, urine and genital samples from the participants as required by the study protocol
- Develop, review and train staff on relevant study standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Assist in mobilizing Counsel participants on risk factors and prevention strategies for STIs
- Administer respective Case Report Forms (CRFs)
- Carry out QA/QC of study CRFs and source docs and resolve queries that may arise.
- Identify participants to be enrolled in the study
- Assist in prescreening and enrollment of the participants
- Counsel participants on adherence to study products
- Management of regulatory affairs regarding clinical part of the study
- Liaise with the study nurse to ensure all study participants undergo the outlined procedures
- Laboratory results interpretation and participant management accordingly
- Perform projection and orders of the required drugs in liaison with the study nurse and account for their use
- Establish and maintain good relationships with participants to foster study retention.

Qualifications

- Must have a Diploma in Clinical Medicine
- Registered with the Clinical Officers' Board
- Two years working experience in a clinical setting
- At least 2 years' experience in conducting clinical research
- Knowledge of HIV prevention and treatment services
- Experience in management of sexually transmitted infections

Additional desirable qualities

- Prior experience in reproductive health-related clinical research recruiting women
- Experience collecting genital samples for research purposes
- Commitment to integrity and high-quality performance

- Good interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team
- Keen and attentive to detail
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Articulate in both verbal and written communication in English and Swahili.
- Good counselling skills
- Proven record keeping skills
- Computer literacy
- Data collection using digital tools especially REDCap
- Flexible and ready to work during odd hours
- Knowledge and experience in managing STI cases will be an added advantage

How to Apply

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

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 February, 2023.

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 contacted