



KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: August 8, 2023

Vacancy NO. CGHR/365/08/23

Project description

The Family Health Unit (FHU) operates within the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)'s Centre for Global Health Research (CGHR). Currently, FHU conducts clinical, epidemiological, and behavioral research, with a growing focus on maternal and child health. These include the Mortality Surveillance study that generates more precise cause-of-death data and shares with families, hospitals and health officials; Pregnancy Surveillance study that recruits and follow up pregnant women (and the new-borns) to better understand health risks associated with the uncertain journey of pregnancy. FHU seeks to promote effective interventions and foster positive health outcomes within the communities it serves. FHU has a vacancy as follows:

Position: Research Scientist

No. of open position(s): One (1)

Job Group: KMR 6

Location: Kisumu (should indicate one place)

Reports to: PI

Person specification:

- Be in possession of a bachelors degree in Anthropology, Sociology, Community Health, Social work, or related Social Science discipline from a recognized institution
- Have at least one-year experience working with communities on issues related to health
- Have a working experience with qualitative analysis software applications such as Dedoose, Nvivo or similar softwares for thematic coding and analysis
- Have excellent written/oral communication, interpersonal and organization skills
- Be fluent in spoken and written English, Kiswahili and Dholuo

Job summary: The incumbent will work within KEMRI study areas in Siaya and Kisumu to support strategies for working with local communities in the mortality and pregnancy surveillance studies as prescribed under FHU. More specifically, he/she will carry out community sensitization and applied qualitative research about community practices related to child, maternal and neonatal health. S/he will interact regularly with general community members, community/ facility-based health workers and other key stakeholders to conduct ethical, respectful, culturally-appropriate, and timely qualitative research in order to develop insights for improving acceptance of mortality and pregnancy surveillance activities.

Job specification:

- Support the conduct qualitative research to guide community outreach and build strong, trusting, ongoing relationships with the community
- Document the key methods/procedures associated with the collaborative participation of local residents
- Participate in collection of qualitative data using focus group discussions, in-depth interviews and field observations
- Perform transcription and translation
- Conduct community-focused rumour surveillance activities across all FHU studies
- Disseminate results within communities and contribute to publications and presentations
- Write summary reports based on the research work conducted
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the immediate supervisor

Terms of Employment: This is a one-year renewable contract as per KEMRI scheme of service, with a probation period in the first 2 months.

Remuneration: The salary scale will be based on applicable KEMRI scales.

Applications must include the following:

- Letter of application (INDICATE VACANCY NUMBER)
- Current CV with contact telephone numbers and e-mail address
- Three Reference Letters
- Copies of certificates and transcripts where applicable, including computer applications certificates

Applications should be addressed to the Deputy Director, CGHR. P.O. Box 1578-40100, Kisumu and submitted online through the link provided in the Institute website not later than September 29, 2023

KEMRI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER; WOMEN AND DISABLED PERSONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. KEMRI DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF ITS SELECTION PROCESS INCLUDING APPLICATION, INTERVIEW MEETING AND PROCESSING OF OFFER LETTER. IF ASKED FOR A FEE, REPORT SUCH REQUEST IMMEDIATELY.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted