



Job Description – March 2022

Title	Clinical Research Fellow
Position	TB Research Fellow
Department/Project	PRIME – TB Program
Reporting To	Principal Investigator

Summary of the Program and Scope of Position

<p>Tuberculosis (TB) remains endemic and is the second leading major cause of death in PNG. The PRIME – TB Program is funded by DFAT through the Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security. The collaborating partners include Papua New Guinea (PNG) Institute of Medical Research (PNG), the PNG National Department of Health, the Provincial Health Authorities, Burnet Institute (Australia), Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia), Menzies School of Health Research (Australia).</p> <p>Using a continuous quality improvement approach, PRIME-TB will pilot evidence-based TB treatments and innovations to determine their suitability for scaling up to other areas. Pilots will focus on active case finding and preventative treatment, improving access to person-centred care, and access to innovative diagnostics and treatments. Adapted training, toolkits, resources and learning networks for public health leaders and healthcare workers on TB micro-elimination will be developed and rolled out to support successful pilots and strengthen health workforce capacity to sustain training, adopt innovation and scale-up elimination approaches.</p> <p>The Program will establish knowledge hubs in PNG, and as a co-investigator, the TB Research Fellow will be responsible to pilot and scale up successful innovations in TB case detection and models of care for active case finding, and conduct enhanced molecular and epidemiological surveillance, supporting the micro-elimination of TB.</p>
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Key Responsibilities:

Main Responsibilities	Required Outcomes
1. To carry out, oversee and co-ordinate the TB micro-elimination pilot study of evidence-based TB treatments and innovations to determine their suitability for scaling up to other areas.	Research is undertaken in accordance with IMR policies and procedures and with regard to individual study requirements.
2. To provide support and guidance to the IMR research nurses and laboratory staff, and ensure good clinical practice is maintained.	Work performed by Nursing Officers and Laboratory Staff are regularly assessed to ensure that it is performed in accordance with accepted health practices and regulations.
3. Overseeing and support laboratory staffs to provide rapid molecular testing for TB and TB drug resistance and provide data for enhanced surveillance to target TB micro- elimination programs.	Work performed by laboratory officers is regularly assessed to ensure that it is performed in accordance with quality assurance practices and regulations.
4. Facilitating the management of PRIME -	All internal section and project requirements are

<p>TB project including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management of financial budgets - ensuring appropriate records are maintained, and - reporting to appropriate key stakeholders. 	carried out in a timely and accurate manner.
5. Develop and rollout training programs, toolkits and provide resources for health care workers and public health partners on TB micro-elimination program working with collaborating partners.	Ensure necessary training and resources are provided to health care workers.
6. Liaising with other clinical practitioners, including the further development and maintenance of appropriate networks	Key relationships are built and maintained relevant to the work of the IMR and the study.
7. Mentor TB health workers on effective clinical management of TB patients.	Appropriate coaching and guidance is provided to health workers.
8. Maintain regular communication and coordination with key stakeholders – co-investigators, study collaborators, PHAs, NDoH and partners.	Effective and regular communication to ensure study rollout is successful.
9. Contribute to preparation of progress and study reports.	Participate and contribute in study reports, including participation in analysis and manuscript writing with the study team.
10. Participating in appropriate conferences and workshops, providing information on research undertaken.	Information on research undertaken is distributed to peers through posters and presentations at appropriate conferences.
11. Comply at all times with IMR's policy and best practice guidelines for occupational health and safety in the workplace.	A safe and healthy work environment at all times.
12. Other duties as required	

Selection Criteria (List of the skills, experience and qualifications required)

Essential Criteria
1. MBBS qualification
2. Experience as a Medical Practitioner within a hospital or private practice setting
3. Excellent understanding of PNG health regulations and practice standards
4. Experience of clinical field research
5. Understanding of research project methodology
6. Excellent written and oral communication skills
Desirable Criteria
1. Post graduate research qualifications
2. Experience working within TB clinic