

VACANCY	
Job title:	Epidemiologist (MATERNAL IMMUNISATION)
Type:	Permanent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed Term <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary <input type="checkbox"/>
Main purpose of the job:	To design and implement research projects, analyse the research data and publish scientific articles.
Location:	Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, New Nurses Home, Soweto
Closing date:	13 August 2024
Submit detailed CV to:	vacancies28@witshealth.co.za
Advert reference number:	EPI - MI
In accordance with our Employment Equity goals and plan, preference will be given to suitable applicants from designated groups as defined in the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 and subsequent amendments thereto.	

Key performance areas

1. Analyse research data and disseminate

- Review research protocol and obtain background of the study.
- Develop the analysis plan.
- Present the analysis plan to relevant stakeholders and obtain feedback and revise as required.
- Perform data analysis, prepare tables and write up methodologies used and results.
- Contribute to and prepare publications and conference presentations.
- Compile relevant reports and research findings to address questions that transpired from meetings, management or donors' requests.
- Disseminate research results in appropriate forums.
- Stay abreast with literature relevant to research activities within the organisation.

2. Research development, design and implementation

- Conceptualise and design the research (self-initiated or commissioned).
- Conduct literature review to determine what research has been done and what the gaps in knowledge.
- Write research proposals and, when required, funding proposals.
- Obtain ethical approval from relevant regulatory committees/bodies.
- Write SOPs for studies.
- Develop and design research tools.
- Write progress reports to stakeholders including networks and funders.
- Train the Research Team and other relevant staff.
- Engage Community Advisory Groups regarding research studies.
- Monitor the progress of research projects through ongoing liaison with study team and investigators.
- Collaborate closely with other investigators on related studies and provide advice or guidance on study design, protocol, research tools, data analysis and other research related activities.
- Provide expert advice and guidance on research database design, review specifications and testing plan (if applicable).

3. Capacity development (internal and external)

- Contribute towards the development of knowledge within the team by identifying relevant training needs and topics.
- Develop relevant training material and presentations.
- Conduct ad hoc research interventions i.e. Journal Clubs.
- Participate actively in the research leadership groups and forums as required.
- Supervise postgraduate degree students (local and international) in the development and completion of their research reports. This includes providing guidance in the development of their concept and research questions, reviewing and providing guidance on concept notes, protocols and analysis plans and approving ethics applications.
- Review drafts of students' research and analysis.
- Appoint internal and external examiners to examine students' research reports.

4. Staff Management

- Attend to all staffing requirements and administration.
- Supervise and manage the duties of subordinates to ensure optimal staff utilisation and maintenance of sound labour relations.
- Perform and facilitate performance development and assessments.
- Identify substandard performance by team members and take necessary corrective action.
- Coach and train subordinates and team members to ensure the acquisition of knowledge and skills required by the organisation.

- Promote harmony, teamwork and sharing of information.

5. Effective self-management and performance ownership

- Take ownership and accountability for tasks and demonstrate effective self-management.
- Follow through to ensure that quality and productivity standards of own work are consistently and accurately maintained.
- Maintain a positive attitude and respond openly to feedback.
- Take ownership for driving own career development by participating in ongoing training and development activities such as forums, conferences, policy setting workshops etc.

Required minimum education and training

PhD in Public Health with Masters degree in Epidemiology.

Required minimum work experience

Minimum 5 years' research or disease surveillance experience.

Record of research output evidenced by least five published refereed papers, with first author on at least two.

Experience working in a donor funded organization/NGO or project- based environment.

Desirable additional education, work experience and personal abilities

Experience in public health environment.

Practical experience in conducting disease surveillance and/ or medical research using various methodological designs.

Experience in data analysis, conduct of systematic reviews and publication writing.

Familiarity with statistical software, particularly STATA. Systematic and analytical in approach to research.

Tactful, respectful and non-judgmental.

Good administrative skills with working knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Able to work under pressure and adhere to deadlines.

Self-motivated, able to work independently and work as part of a diverse / multidisciplinary team.

Assertive, confident and adaptable.

Certification in good clinical practice.

Demands of the job

Traveling (national and international) may be required from time to time. Overtime may be required to meet specific deadlines.

Communications and relationships

Maintain effective working relationships with all VIDA staff at various levels. Liaise effectively with relevant review boards, partner organisations, students, other syndicate staff, NGOs, Department of Health (provincial and national), Community Advisory Groups, donors and other relevant international bodies (e.g. WHO).

Should you be interested in applying for this vacancy, please send an email to vacancies28@witshealth.co.za. The subject heading of the email must include the job title of position applying for. Please include the following documentation:

- A cover letter (maximum one page) that clearly states which vacancy you are applying for.
- A detailed CV