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OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR

**Job announcement for the position of Data Management Specialist under point of care viral load (PoC VL) Project**

The University of Rwanda is a public institution of Higher learning committed to support the development of the country through the generation and advancement of knowledge and innovation among other core activities. In that regard, the University of Rwanda is implementing a study that use point of care viral load (PoC VL) monitoring intervention to improve virological suppression among children and adolescents (age 0-19 years) "Point of care testing project". To fulfil optimal functioning, UR-Single Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) calls for qualified and motivated candidates to apply on the position of data manager.

**Summary of the post**

The UNAIDS developed the 90-90-90 strategy to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic by 2020. The third 90 focus on those on treatment having a viral suppression. To achieve the third 90, the WHO recommends six-month viral load monitoring for suppression. Monitoring of viral suppression enables appropriate use of ART and encourage adherence and prevent development of drug resistance. Rational use and adherence to ART preserves the more affordable first and second line of treatment options in resource-poor settings. One of the barriers to effective VL monitoring is the standardized care approach of centralized VL testing done at specialized laboratories. The turnaround time, for HIV VL test and result, related logistical challenges, can hinder early initiation or continuum of HIV healthcare. PoC/ VL monitoring is novel approach that has been validated and eliminates most of the challenges associated with centralized VL monitoring including potential delays and logistical challenges. The project aims to examine the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of using point of care viral load (PoC/ VL) monitoring among children and adolescents living with HIV in East Africa. Additionally, perception and attitude of study participants to use of PoC for HIV VL monitoring will be explored.

Reporting to the local Principal Investigator, the data manager will serve as one of a larger team of implementing day-to-day activities and participate in scientific research assessing effectiveness, feasibility, acceptability of PoC VL in addition to evaluate the perception and the psychosocial aspects of using this approach to monitor viral load, the data manager will be required to frequently travel between investigative sites.

## **1. DATA MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (1POSITION)**

### **MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Preparation and implementation of the data analysis plans of the project.
- Psychometric development or validation of the data collection tools.
- Manuscripts or reports write up and organization of workshops with principal investigator, partners, and other project members.
- Participate in formative research using qualitative methods to better understand and capture important cultural and contextual dynamics.
- Installation and piloting of the questionnaires in Kobo toolbox, or Survey CTO.
- Making correspondence in manuscript submission to the scientific journals and take a lead in addressing comments raised in peer-review process.
- Capacity building in conducting and administering surveys as part of interviews with study participants and healthcare workers either face-to-face or by phone.
- Collaborate with training assessment team and routinely share experiences and best practices to improve data collection processes.
- Capacity building of the team in data analysis through several training and workshops.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the supervisor or their nominees.

### **Required Skills and Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in clinical psychology, public health, or any other related field with at least 3 years of experiences or Bachelor's degree in these fields with 5 years experience.
- Proven experience in conducting quantitative and qualitative research.
- Proved work experience in quantitative and qualitative data cleaning and analysis using SPSS, Process macro, Mplus, Amos, Stata or Nvivo.
- Proven experience in interpretation of results and report writing.
- Proficiency with Microsoft suite (Excel, word, and PowerPoint).
- Ability to work independently and be flexible during teamwork.
- Fluent in speaking and writing English & Kinyarwanda is important.
- Having other certificates related to the other research design is an added value.

### **Desired Skills and Qualifications:**

- Having authored or co-authored ten publications.
- Having acted as the review or editor of high impact journals.
- Record of peer-review or academic editor is added value.
- Excellent organizational skills demonstrated by ability to deliver to deadline.
- Excellent skills in critical thinking
- Proficiency with Microsoft office suite (excel, word, PowerPoint, outlook)

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their applications online to the link:  
<https://forms.gle/7zbYh4MZnZ9xVJdx6>

Documents required are:

1. An application letter addressed to UR/SPIU Coordinator. The letter should briefly indicate your motivation and how you meet all the requirements described in the position for which you have applied (max 2 pages)
2. A detailed Curriculum Vitae (max 4 pages)
3. Zipped file indicating the publications.
4. Copy of academic degree(s), and Certificates of any relevant professional training
5. Copy of National Identity and/or passport or equivalent identity card
6. One recommendation letter from previous employment

**The deadline for submission of the application is set on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023. Only shortlisted candidates will be required to sit for written test.**

Done at Kigali on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023

  
Immaculate BUGINGO  
Coordinator  
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