

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1 POSTDOC
RESEARCH FELLOW AND FOUR RESEARCH ASSISTANTS.**

**Community-based person-Centred enhanced care for People Living with
HIV/AIDS in Ghana (ExtraCECI)
School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Ghana**



Medical
Research
Council



Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY



Research Project Summary

Community-based approaches in tackling HIV/AIDS have prospects of keeping People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) healthy and alive through the delivery of person-centered and holistic care. Task-shifting and decentralising HIV services to community settings in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) has proven to be cost-effective. The use of person-centred assessment and care delivered by trained healthcare professionals (HCP) has demonstrated a positive effect on self-reported mental health-related QoL and psychosocial well-being. ExtraCECI project aims to improve the quality of life and person-centred outcomes for PLWHA in Ghana. This is a cluster randomised control trial that will target both cluster and individual participants. It will include (i) a training programme for HCP on person-centred communication, (ii) a holistic assessment of PLWHA's symptoms and concerns in the domains of physical, psychological, social, and spiritual wellbeing using a structured tool, (iii) a care plan to facilitate collaborative care planning and delivery, (iv) mentorship for HCP and fidelity monitoring. The 'Extra' component for PLWHA is (v) training/sensitising PLWHA to engage, participate and contribute to their care decisions.

Position I: Postdoctoral Research Fellow (full time)

Job description

This is a full-time position, and the research fellow will be responsible for coordinating the ExtraCECI project from commencement until completion. The fellow will work with the Principal Investigators (PI) to plan, implement, evaluate, and report all project activities. The research fellow directly reports to the PI on all matters relating to the project and will work with the research assistants to ensure timely target delivery.

Minimum qualifications: PhD in Nursing, Public Health, or Social Sciences

Previous experience in Randomised Control Trials and HIV research or care will be an added advantage.

Knowledge and Skills

- Excellent teamwork and communication skills.
- Demonstrate scholarly writing skills through peer-reviewed publications.
- Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed methods research
- Data management
- Data Analysis
- Excellent project and time management skills
- Strong interpersonal and mentoring skills

Responsibilities

- Serve as the project coordinator.
- Facilitate the development of the project implementation plan and key performance indicators.
- Schedule project meetings and generate meeting reports.
- Coordinate procurement and allocation of resources.
- Train and supervise research assistants.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with research assistants and team members.
- Liaise effectively with the project team (Ghana & UK), stakeholders, and research participants.
- Writes manuscripts.
- Contribute intellectually to the scientific goal of the project.
- Prepare research ethics applications, data sharing agreements, and study progress reports for consideration by the team.
- Collaborate with the statistician in managing data analysis, interpreting results, preparing manuscripts and presentations.
- Prepare interview questions, recruit and interview subjects, code and develop themes.
- Works independently with minimal supervision.

- Collaboration with senior and junior members of the research team
- Disseminate research findings at scientific meetings and conferences.
- Participate in training sessions, and graduate and faculty seminars.
- Monitor and report on the project cycle and share reports through the PI to the funder.
- Other duties as assigned by the project team.

Remuneration: Attractive with fringe benefits

Duration: 4years

Must be available to start work by 1st May 2024

Email application cover letter and CV to gdzansi@ug.edu.gh

Position II: Research Assistants (x4) (full time)

Job description

The successful applicant for this position will manage the collection, maintenance, tracking, and analysis of research data for the ExtraCECI project. Working under the supervision of the principal investigators and the research fellow, the Research Assistant will collect, enter, and clean data for analysis, prepare presentations and manuscripts, and generate reports on the study activities. The position is full-time.

Minimum qualifications: Master of Philosophy/ Science in Nursing, Public Health, or Social Sciences.

Candidates with a Bachelor of Science degree and substantive research experience working with PLWHA may be considered.

Knowledge and Skills

- Effective Communication
- Attention to detail
- Critical thinking
- Statistical and Graphical Analysis of Data
- Quantitative, Qualitative, or Mixed methods research
- Ability to maintain quality and safety standards.
- Planning and scheduling
- Interviewing
- Data Collection using structured and validated questionnaires.

Responsibilities

- Assist in developing the project implementation plan.
- Assist in the development of the project implementation plan and key performance indicators.
- Participant recruitment across all clinics included in the study.
- Assist in managing data collection and coordination of study activities, including the development, implementation, and evaluation of all operational and scientific aspects of the project.
- Assist in preparing research ethics applications, data sharing agreements, and study progress reports for consideration by the team.
- Conduct literature searches and maintain citation databases.
- Assist in collaborating with the statistician in managing data analysis, interpreting results, and preparing manuscripts and presentations.
- Assist in preparing interview questions, recruiting, and interviewing subjects, coding and developing themes.
- Ensure the integrity of the project process.
- Participate in graduate and faculty seminars.
- Field visit to engage with participants.
- Other duties as assigned by the project team.

Remuneration: Attractive with fringe benefits

Duration: 4years

Must be available to start work by 1st May 2024

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Position III: Data Manager/Analyst (Part-time)

Minimum qualifications: Master of Philosophy/Science in Public Health, Social Sciences, Biological sciences, Statistics Analysis, Physical sciences, Data management/Computer Science

SKILLS

- Excellent communication skills.
- Demonstrated project management, time management, organisation, and leadership skills.
- Strong problem-solving and data analysis skills.
- Experience handling data within the clinical/trial study process.
- Competent in using complex databases/systems to accurately log and manage clinical/trial data.
- Strong understanding of the clinical/trial study lifecycle.
- Proficient in Microsoft Excel, SAS Programming, and other statistical software.
- Able to identify ways of configuring and validating systems to collect data that fit the study's protocol endpoints.
- Project management experience, and experience leading a team of Data Managers will be an added advantage.

Responsibilities

The main responsibilities will vary from role to role, but may include:

- As a data manager, you are expected to have leadership skills for training project team members, and resolution of issues on data collection.
- Oversee the project data management including storage, sharing, and ensuring adherence to data protection regulations.
- Assist with database design, data entry and validation in project database and ensure data quality control
- Work closely with the trials unit statisticians to establish standard operating procedures in building capacity towards conducting future trials in Ghana.
- Organized and detail oriented.
- Create and maintain data management plans and case report forms.
- Ensure data management activities are completed accurately to be transferred to the statistical analysis team.
- Manage data queries.

- Review and maintain data management documentation and record management systems.
- Review case report forms (CRFs) to ensure information recorded is complete, accurate, and compliant with project protocols.
- Prepare reports and presentations with updates on trial progress.
- Assist in organising and analysing trial data to identify important trends/issues.
- Oversee the development and maintenance of the trial master file (TMF).
- Review study protocols to ensure compliance with regulatory standards.
- Check study results for accuracy and completeness.
- Provide training and guidance to project team on study procedures/processes.
- Build and maintain relationships with external bodies, including regulatory agencies.
- Assist with data analysis to identify anomalies and potential issues to protect the integrity of the project.

Remuneration: Attractive with fringe benefits

Duration: 4years

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