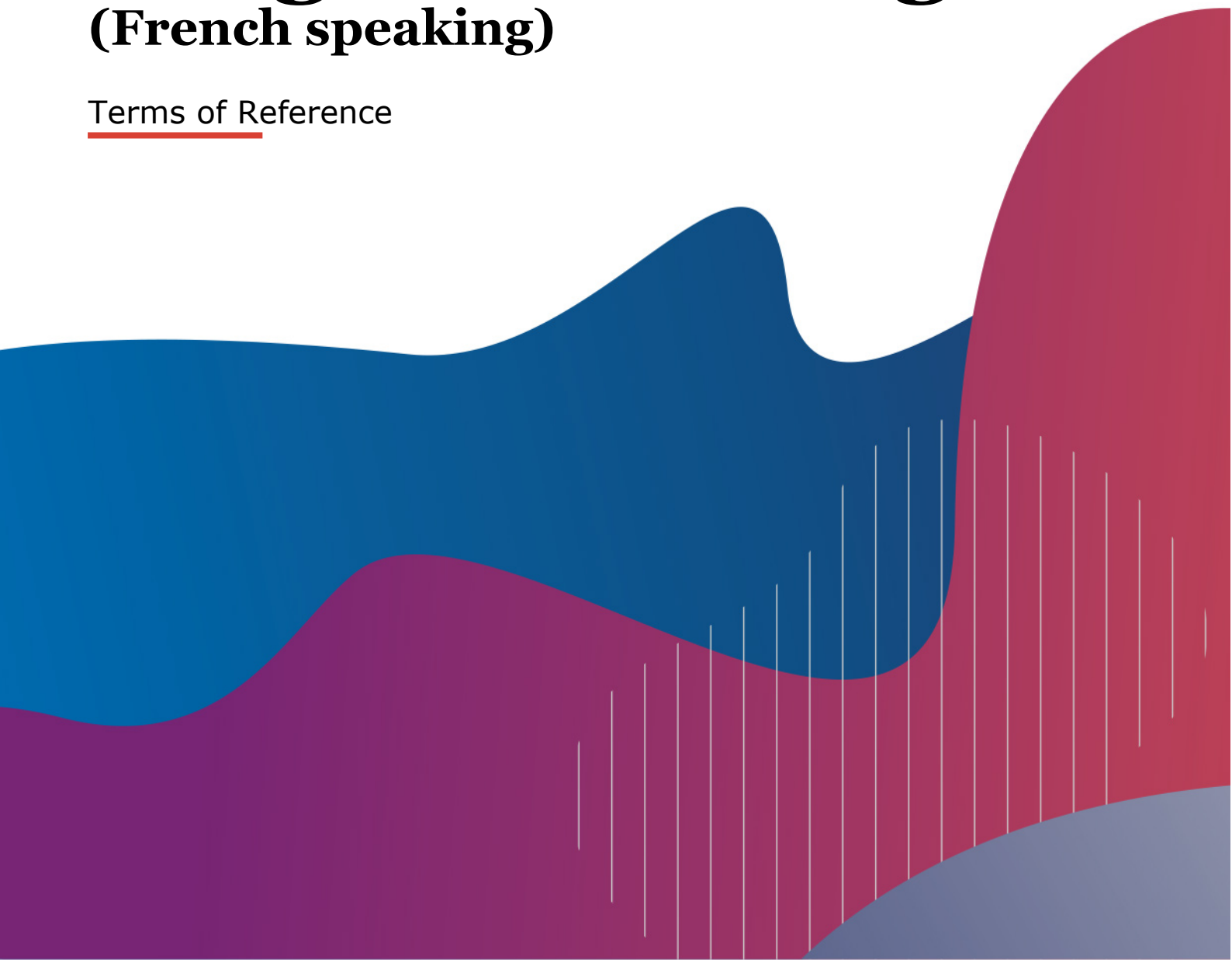


Educators in Surgical Nursing (French speaking)

Terms of Reference



Surgical Educator, DRC

Brief and Terms of Reference

Summary

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) is looking for Educators in Surgical Nursing to support our safe surgery programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The post holder(s) will have a background in surgery, anaesthesia or perioperative care and will support activity to strengthen health worker capacity on safe surgery. This is a fantastic opportunity for **volunteers with experience in surgery and low resource settings** to be involved in an exciting new phase of work in the DRC.

This role would ideally suit nurses, theatre practitioners, or health professionals with experience in surgical education who are interested in global health.

The roles combine remote support of approximately 1-2 hours per week with at least one, 2-4 week trip to DRC in 2026 to co-deliver teaching module(s) in situ.

French-speaking is essential.

King's Global Health Partnerships

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) works with health facilities, academic institutions, and governments to strengthen health systems and improve the quality of care in five countries: Somaliland, Sierra Leone, the DRC, Zambia and the Gambia. We bring together health, academic and international development expertise from King's College London, the UK's National Health Service (NHS) and our international partners to:

- Educate, train and support healthcare workers
- Strengthen healthcare and training institutions
- Enhance national health policies and systems.

Our programmes are delivered by volunteers, with educators, researchers, health professionals, managers and health sector leaders taking up volunteering placements to deliver technical advice, teaching, training, and distance mentoring and on the job support to their counterparts in the global south.

King's Kongo Central Partnership

KGHP has been working in the DRC to help strengthen the health system and improve the quality of care since 2015. We work in the Kongo Central province, in the southwest of the country where there is a high burden of trauma due to road traffic collisions on the arterial route connecting the Atlantic port cities of Boma and Matadi with the capital Kinshasa. We work with our partners to provide education and training of healthcare workers, and to strengthen the trauma system, clinical services, policy and research. Key partners include the provincial Ministry of Health, the Division of Health, the Hôpital Provincial de Référence de Kinkanda (Matadi) and the Université Joseph Vubu (Boma). These institutions provide services for a population of 6 million.

Context

Surgery is an integral component of a functioning healthcare system. In Kongo Central province, most of the population lacks access to safe, timely and affordable surgery. For patients who are able to access surgical care, peri-operative mortality and complications are high and outcomes are poor. The barriers to accessing safe surgery in Kongo Central include: the risk of financial hardship for patients, the lack of a trained healthcare workforce, poor infrastructure and equipment, weak strategic leadership and limited use of data to improve health service delivery.

The four main tertiary hospitals in the province employ experienced surgical staff, but there is only one full time post-graduate trained surgeon for the province and no specialist nurse surgical training. Most staff working in the operating room are self-taught and have not received formal training in peri-operative practice.

During the first phase of the Safe Surgery project, we developed robust data on surgery and emergency care, integrated the use of the WHO Safe Surgery Checklist into routine practice, and improved staff skills and knowledge. It is essential that we maintain the momentum of this project, bring about policy change at a national level, and address areas where gaps remain. To meet these needs, the second phase of the project has been designed, in collaboration with local partners and stakeholders with a focus on reducing surgical site infection rates, to impact the healthcare system at three levels. In partnership with the ministry of health, division of health and health care institutions, this project will tackle barriers to safe surgery at multiple levels of the health system. At systems level, it will work with the Provincial Health Division to increase capacity for leadership, strategic planning and management of surgical data. At institutional level, we will work to improve infrastructure and equipment. At an individual level, we will work to improve the knowledge, skills and confidence of health workers in safe surgery.

Training

The training component of this program consists of three elements: undergraduate, postgraduate, and in-service training for the multidisciplinary team.

We are currently seeking individuals to support the postgraduate nursing element of this programme in 2026.

We are developing and piloting a postgraduate diploma in surgical nursing at teaching hospital IME Kimpese in southwest DRC. This is the first of its kind in DRC. This 15-month program will train five nurses currently working in Kongo Central in intraoperative care, including sterilization, surgical instrument management, and patient care. It is anticipated that this course will be nationally accredited, and upon completion of the pilot project, additional funding will be sought for a nationwide rollout.

The diploma consists of six modules. You have the option to contribute to the delivery of one or several of these modules, according to your availability and professional skillset:

1. Introduction to peri-operative nursing
2. Pre-Operative Care
3. Intra-Operative Care – Surgical
4. Intra-Operative Care – General
5. Instrument Sterilization & Specimen Handling
6. Post-Operative Care

Aim

We are looking for one or more French speaking health professionals who can contribute to the delivery and teaching of one or more modules of this postgraduate nursing diploma in person, for at least one period of 2-4 weeks in 2026.

You will also have the opportunity to be part of the team who will be working to validate and gain national accreditation for this pilot project, ensuring future sustainability and national ownership.

You will be supported by the wider team including the Lead Surgical Educator, the technical working group for safe surgery, and colleagues from King's Global Health Partnerships both in the UK and the DRC.

Objectives

Specific objectives will include, but are not limited to:

- Supporting the delivery of a context appropriate post graduate diploma in peri-operative care for experienced nurses. This will be for an initial cohort of five nurses, over two years, with five 1-month practical placements at IME Kimpese, Kongo Central Province
- Working with the KGHP team, IME Kimpese nursing school and educators to ensure that the diploma is accredited by the national ministry of health
- Ensuring all learning materials are developed appropriately for inclusion on the SurgHub online learning platform
- Ensuring engagement with provincial and national stakeholders to plan for future national accreditation of all education programmes

Timing

We are looking for volunteers who can engage with the project by the end of 2025.

We are seeking people able to travel to DRC to co-deliver teaching at IME Kimpese for a 2-4 week period during 2026.

Skills and experience

- **The post-holder(s) must be able to speak and write in French**
- **Qualifications:** Appropriate nursing or allied health professional degree. Diploma in tropical medicine desirable but not essential. Teaching qualification desirable but not essential.
- **Experience:**
 - **Essential:**
 - Surgical, anaesthetic or obstetric care provider (scrub nurse, nurse, nurse specialist, operating department practitioner, anaesthetic nurse).
 - Experience of working in a low-resource setting.
 - **Desirable:**
 - Surgical or anaesthetic experience and skills.
 - Experience of delivering workshops, training and/or capacity building, ideally in LMICs.
 - Experience of implementing quality improvement projects.
 - Experience of developing curricula.

Expectations

The Educator will be expected to support this piece of work alongside others, including the Lead Surgical Educator and the KKCP team, providing technical expertise. There is a strong emphasis on learning from and working with the healthcare workers in facilities, collaboratively designing solutions and training packages which are appropriate for the environment.

All candidates that participate in our programmes are expected to attend an induction and read the KKCP handbook. All candidates will be supported to develop objectives for the engagement, which will include objectives for their own professional and personal development. Educators are expected to document the work that they deliver for the partnership and will be supported to do so in the form of logs or reports.

Our offer to you

There is no financial remuneration for this role, however, you will have the opportunity to work as part of a dynamic team and contribute to improving health outcomes for a population in need.

All expenses for in-person trips to DRC including travel, accommodation, insurance and travel vaccinations will be covered by KGHP at no cost to you.

In addition, there is strong evidence that health partnerships not only benefit people in low-resource settings. They also bring real benefit to NHS staff and services, as well as citizens in our partner countries. Among others, these benefits include the opportunity to develop:

- Leadership skills
- Skills in interdisciplinary team working
- Knowledge and skills in innovation and quality improvement
- Clinical and teaching experience
- Cross-cultural experience
- Personal resilience and efficiency

Application

All roles are appointed following an application and interview process. We will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis so encourage you to apply early. If you are interested in applying, please send your CV and cover letter to kghp@kcl.ac.uk, referencing, “Educator in Surgical Nursing Application.”

Thank you for your interest in King’s Global Health Partnerships.

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