

King's Sierra Leone Partnership

Point of Care Ultrasound Trainer- volunteer

Overview

King's Sierra Leone Partnership is launching an exciting new project focused on developing point of care ultrasound scanning (PoCUS) in emergency rooms in hospitals across Sierra Leone.

This project will introduce PoCUS to improve the accuracy and speed of diagnosis for acutely unwell patients in the emergency departments of four key hospital in Sierra Leone; Connaught Hospital in Freetown and the three regional hospitals: Bo Government Hospital, Kenema Government Hospital and Makeni Government Hospital. We are recruiting an experienced clinician with strong experience of sonography who will provide training and mentorship to 20 clinicians in Freetown. They will then co-develop a course curriculum to be rolled out by six Sierra Leonean partners, picked from the 20 who attended the initial training, in the three regional hospitals. The volunteer will draw on a baseline assessment conducted in Connaught and use well established PoCUS training programmes and resources such as those developed by the African Federation of Emergency Medicine (AFEM).

They will be using a hand-held device, such as the Butterfly iQ, which can be purchased at a relatively low cost and used with a smart phone or tablet computer. These devices will be provided to the hospitals as part of the project.

The opportunity

This is a fantastic opportunity for an experienced clinician to be involved in a high-impact project in Sierra Leone. The project will run for 18 months from January 2023 to July 2024, with the successful candidate working on the project for 12 months. The activities they will work on will include:

- Development of training curriculum, materials and assessment
- Delivering training to 20 participants in Freetown
- Supervising scanning, quality assurance and mentoring of trainees
- Selection and further training of 6 master trainers
- Supporting the delivery of training and mentorship in 3 regional hospitals
- Evaluation of the programme using the Kirkpatrick model

The clinician will work in partnership across all activities. 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.

The team will be supported by King's Global Health Partnership's team in the UK and in Sierra Leone, with operations, logistics, financial and project management support.

Who do we want?

KGHP is seeking an experienced clinician to work with partners in Sierra Leone on PoCUS training and mentoring. The clinician will be leading the training and data collection as well as supporting the evaluation of the project.

Essential:

- Substantial experience in emergency care (4 years or more) as an advanced clinical practitioner or doctor (Year 3 specialist trainee as a minimum)
- Significant experience in the use of PoCUS in the emergency setting
- Experience in delivering certified ultrasound training to a curriculum such as the “Point-of-Care Ultrasound Curriculum Guidelines” developed by IFEM or the “RCEM Point of Care Ultrasound (PoCUS) Curriculum”
- Experience in a low resource setting
- Strong leadership skills
- Experience in managing projects

Desirable:

- Accreditation in PoCUS training such as FUSIC accreditation, or 'Level 4 Entrustment' on RCEM POCUS Entrustment Scale
- Experience in Sierra Leone
- Experience in systems change
- Experience in designing or adapting training material
- Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM), African Federation of Emergency Medicine (AFEM) or similar membership

Our offer to you

You will have the opportunity to work as part of a dynamic team and contribute to improving health outcomes for a population in need. In addition, there is strong evidence that health partnerships like ours do 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

Volunteers on placements will receive additional support which is listed below.

- Pre-departure and in-country induction
- Cost of return flights to and from initial post is covered by KGHP
- £500 monthly stipend for living expenses, paid in-country in Leones
- Visa, residency permit and professional registration with the appropriate Sierra Leone professional body (e.g. Nursing & Midwifery Board or Medical and Dental Council) covered by KGHP
- Cost of vaccinations and antimalarials covered by KGHP
- Enrolment onto King's College London Travel Insurance policy
- Medical indemnity cover

- Cost of accommodation covered by KGHP

When?

This project will run from January 2023 to July 2024, and this is a full-time volunteer opportunity, based in Sierra Leone. We are offering one 12-month placement (March 2023-March 2024) or two six-month placements (March-August 2023 and August 2023-March 2024). The successful candidate would need to be able to travel to Sierra Leone in early March 2023 (or as soon as possible).

Next steps

If you are interested in applying, please submit a C.V. and a completed volunteer application form at <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/kghp/volunteering>. Application process is ongoing, until the role is filled. If you have any questions, please email Cecily Borgstein, Partnership Lead, Sierra Leone:
Cecily.borgstein@kcl.ac.uk

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