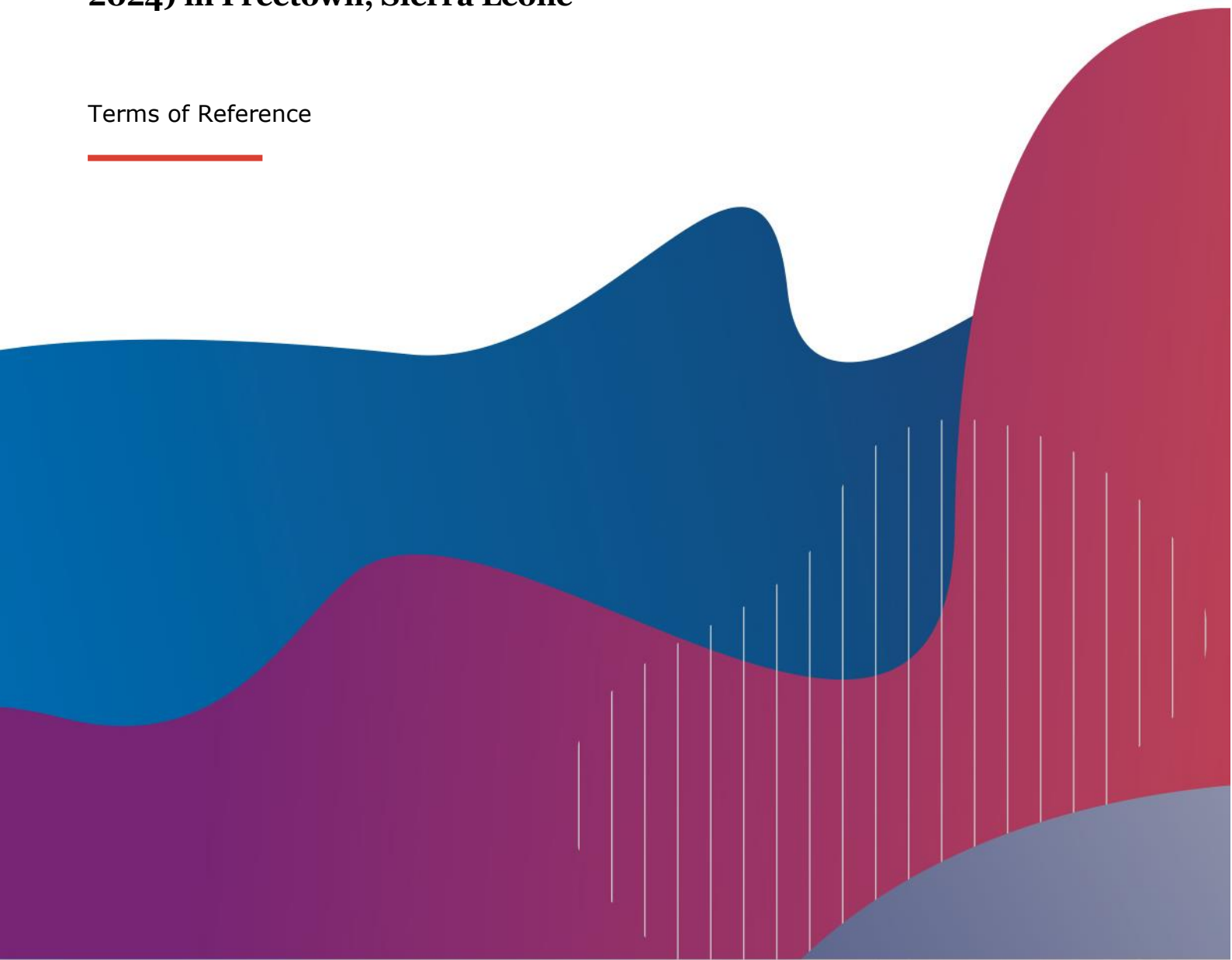


# Pharmacist (band 6+)

**Nine-month volunteer placement (April – December 2024) in Freetown, Sierra Leone**

Terms of Reference

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## Pharmacist (band 6+): promoting antimicrobial stewardship in Sierra Leone during a nine-month placement

### Volunteer Brief and Terms of Reference

#### Summary

King's Global Health Partnerships (KGHP) in Sierra Leone is looking to recruit pharmacists who will support antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) activities and leadership at three hospitals in Freetown during a nine-month placement from April to December 2024. You will work alongside the partners to provide mentorship and technical support to the AMS Committee at Connaught Hospital, the main referral hospital in Freetown during a 21-month project. You will also support the set-up of AMS teams/committees at Ola During Children's Hospital (ODCH) and 34 Military (34M) Hospital.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and this opportunity will close as soon as a suitable candidate is found.

### 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 four countries: Somaliland, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. 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 Sub Saharan Africa.

### King's Sierra Leone Partnership

KGHP has been working in Sierra Leone to help strengthen the health system and improve the quality of care since 2011. We work with our partners to provide education and training of healthcare workers, and to strengthen clinical services, policy and research. Key partners include the University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospitals Complex Connaught Hospital (USLTHC), the College of Medicine & Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS) and the Ministry of Health & Sanitation (MOHS).

## Context

This is a fantastic opportunity for experienced pharmacists to be involved in a long-standing and high-impact project in Sierra Leone. The Strengthening Pharmacy Leadership for Antimicrobial Stewardship project aims to strengthen the capacity of pharmacy professionals in Sierra Leone to lead on issues of antimicrobial stewardship (AMS). An active AMS Committee has already been established at Connaught Hospital, and 10 enthusiastic AMS Champions are advocating for and implementing AMS in their own workplace. The current project aims to expand this approach to cater to additional facilities, environments and audiences. The main goals of this 1.5 year project are to:

- Support Connaught Hospital to deliver a second round of training to new AMS Champions from hospitals and community pharmacies across Freetown.
- Provide mentorship to previous AMS Champions so they gain the confidence to lead on AMS training sessions.
- Develop a self-directed learning module for pharmacy interns to sustainably incorporate AMS into pharmacists' training.
- Work with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) and the Technical Working Group (TWG) for AMS to develop national antimicrobial prescribing guidelines.
- Build on the development of microbiology services at Connaught Hospital by integrating microbiology into the AMS Champion training.

The project is being co-delivered by Connaught Hospital, the Pharmaceutical Society of Sierra Leone (PSSL), the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone (PBSL) and KSLP.

## Proposed activities

Key activities during your placement would include:

- Providing ongoing support to existing Pharmacy AMS Champions and AMS committee members at Connaught Hospital to deliver training to new Champions.
- Delivery of practical sessions and mentorship of new AMS Champions and AMS teams/committees at Connaught Hospital, ODCH, 34M and community pharmacies.
- Working alongside our Pharmacy and Education Advisor to develop learning materials for both the AMS modules for pharmacy interns and CPD for PSSL members.
- Meeting with national stakeholders to support the development of national antimicrobial prescribing guidelines.
- Providing general technical input and design support to the AMS Committee at Connaught Hospital in delivering project activities, which include awareness raising and implementing antibiotic prescribing guidelines, as well as assisting with reporting and project Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL).

## Timing

We are offering a nine-month placement from April – December 2024. You would be expected to travel in early- to mid-April. There will be a period of remote onboarding and induction from early 2024 onwards. Your placement will build on the work of a previous pharmacy volunteer, who will be based in Freetown from August 2023 to April 2024.

You will be based at Connaught Hospital in Freetown and will access to the KGHP office.

Recruitment for this role includes an online interview which, if your application is successful, will take place shortly after you submit your application.

## Skills and experience

We are looking for pharmacists who are hardworking, enthusiastic and solution-oriented. You will need to believe in the value of partnership working and be able to demonstrate this through your work. You will be sensitive and adaptable to the challenging nature of delivering training and healthcare in a resource scarce environment. You will have strong interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills. You will need to be mature, responsible for your own work, and able to prioritise and multitask in a demanding environment.

### **Essential:**

#### *Academic and Professional qualifications:*

- Minimum band 7 OR band 6 with minimum 2 years work experience.

#### *Professional Experience:*

- Experience working in hospital-based pharmacy and antimicrobial stewardship activities
- Experience of teaching and mentoring junior healthcare workers or students
- Experience with working in multi-disciplinary teams in busy clinical settings
- A good understanding of partnership working and ethical global health development

### **Desirable:**

- Experience in developing AMS protocols, guidelines or governance structures
- Good research skills and ability to mentor others in research

## Expectations

Successful candidates will be required to complete an onboarding and induction process which includes a DBS check. As part of your affiliation with KGHP, you will also be actively encouraged to document your work. KGHP are keen to promote your activities via our social media channels and through a variety of internal and external media. You will liaise with the communications team to promote the various activities outlined above. In addition, you will be encouraged to also keep a personal reflective journal to document your experiences.

## 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

We will provide you with the following support:

- Pre-departure and in-country induction
- Enrolment onto King's College London Travel Insurance policy
- Medical indemnity cover
- Access to KCL Mental Health Support services
- 27 days annual leave (pro-rate), plus Sierra Leonean public holidays

Additionally, the following costs will be covered by KSLP:

- Return flights to and from initial post
- Vaccinations and antimalarials
- Accommodation
- Visa, residency permit and professional registration with the Sierra Leone Nursing & Midwifery Board
- £500 monthly stipend for living expenses, paid in-country in Leones

## Application

If you are interested in applying, please complete the online application form and submit a C.V. under the “Apply” tab on our Global Volunteering Scheme web page: [www.kcl.ac.uk/kghp/volunteering](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/kghp/volunteering). We will get back to you shortly to confirm your application.

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

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