

Job Description

Epidemiologist

ISGlobal (Barcelona, Spain)

The Barcelona Institute for Global Health, ISGlobal, is the fruit of an innovative alliance between academic, government, and philanthropic institutions to contribute to the efforts undertaken by the international community to address the challenges in global health. ISGlobal provides a hub of excellence dedicated to scientific research and the provision of health care. The institute, which originated in a joint initiative of the Hospital Clínic de Barcelona and the University of Barcelona, has amassed over 30 years of experience in the field of global health. The pivotal mechanism of its work model is the transfer of knowledge generated by scientific research to practice, a task undertaken by the Research, Training and Policy and Global Development departments. Its ultimate goal is to help close the gaps in health disparities between and within different regions of the world.

ISGlobal is seeking an experienced **Epidemiologist** who is interested in working in the research activities of the project **“An efficacy trial of the incremental mortality benefit of IPTi plus azithromycin” (IPTi-plus)**. The overall project goal is to contribute to reduce infant mortality in areas of high mortality and malaria burden in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The five-year project, funded by BMGF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and coordinated by ISGlobal, the Barcelona Institute for Global Health, will evaluate the impact on childhood mortality of azithromycin (AZI) plus intermittent preventive treatment with sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine (IPTi-SP) administered through the Expanded Program on Immunisation (EPI) in Sierra Leone and Mozambique.

The ISGlobal-led consortium includes ISGlobal, as lead research and principal recipient and responsible to BMGF for the implementation of the Project and other local counterparts. The consortium will work closely with the Ministries of Health in Sierra Leone and Mozambique, the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as other stakeholders, to ensure that all project outputs are met.

IPTi-plus will generate evidence for change and expand access to preventive chemotherapy for infants in sub Saharan Africa through the:

1. evaluation of the impact of azithromycin, plus intermittent preventive treatment with sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine administered through the Expanded Program on Immunisation on all-cause mortality in young children living in areas of high mortality and malaria burden in Sub-Saharan Africa.
2. evaluation of the Expanded Program on Immunisation (EPI) as a delivery channel to ensure the long-term sustainability of interventions targeted to young children, and specifically IPTi, a safe, efficacious and cost-effective intervention recommended by WHO.

IPTi-plus will apply a community-based approach that fosters partnership and strengthens the dynamic link between communities and health facilities, especially for the most vulnerable people. A learning-driven approach will be employed throughout the project to generate sufficient evidence to inform WHO policy recommendations and future actions in each country, in an effort to expand the intervention over the long-term.

ISGlobal is the lead evaluation and research organization and is responsible for implementing a set of studies to generate evidence for global guidance on IPTi-plus. Specifically, ISGlobal will be responsible for designing and implementing the project's evaluation plan, as well as designing, analyzing and reporting the clinical and operational research studies to assess the efficacy and impact of the intervention (IPTi-plus), including an individually randomised

placebo-controlled trial in infants exposed to malaria and high mortality burden, and the feasibility of the intervention (IPTi) through the EPI.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop study protocols and Standard Operating Procedures for the clinical trial in collaboration with local counterparts identified by ISGlobal
- Support to site's regulatory authority applications and approvals
- Support and supervise the implementation of the clinical trial and related research studies in the project countries (Sierra Leone, Mozambique)
- Coordinate, supervise and perform training activities with local counterparts as required
- Monitoring the clinical trial throughout its duration
- Ensure quality assurance for the data analysis leading to reporting and scientific publication
- Interact with colleagues from ISGlobal and local counterparts in Sierra Leone and Mozambique
- Prepare documents for different meetings and research conferences as required
- Support in the elaboration of progress reports, workplans and other documents as required by the ISGlobal's Project Director / Technical Coordinator
- Report his/her activities of the project
- Scientific writing of manuscripts derived of the research activities

Under the guidance of the Project Director (PD) and the Technical coordinator (TC) the candidate will be expected to:

DUTIES:

- Travel on a regular basis to project countries (Sierra Leone, Mozambique) to implement and supervise the implementation of the trial as well as related monitoring & evaluation and research activities;
- Conduct and supervise the training in the project countries
- Interact with local counterparts' implementing team in the project countries
- Prepare and present reports of the activities and field trips to the Technical Coordinator
- Carry out any other duties that are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job, as requested by ISGlobal Technical Coordinator

COMPETENCES:

Qualifications:

- Advanced University degree in Biomedical sciences
- Master or PhD studies in Epidemiology or Public Health

Experience:

- At least 3 years of experience on clinical and/ or epidemiological research
- Verifiable evidence of experience in clinical trials
- Working experience in low-income countries
- Experience managing and analyzing large data sets of clinical, laboratory, and field data

Required competencies:

- Full-time schedule and exclusive dedication
- A very good command (advanced level) of the English language;
- Excellent writing ability to elaborate high-quality and concise technical reports.
- Excellent presentation skills
- Excellent ability of initiative, coordination and team work in multicultural environment, and to interact with staff at project countries, at governmental organizations and NGOs
- Ability to adapt to new environments, work effectively as part of the team and use own initiative when required
- Flexibility. Open to new ideas and new working methods, adapt positively to change, exchange views and opinions with colleagues. Able to work independently while understanding own limits
- Ability to design and develop activities, to achieve milestones and specific deliverables, and to meet deadlines
- Effective written and verbal communication skills
- Oriented to train and transfer knowledge to biomedical staff in African contexts.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, STATA (or similar statistical packages), communication applications and Web technologies

Desirable:

- Working knowledge (intermediate level) of Portuguese
- Knowledge of Catalan or Spanish
- To have a genuine interest in biomedical research of infectious diseases, capacity building and global development

We offer:

- Full-time position, office-based in Barcelona
- Fixed-term contract for all project length (up to 60 months), starting in June 2019
- Salary according to the candidate profile and project budget.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please send a CV and a cover letter to: job@isglobal.org with the reference **IPTI-plus_EPI**. Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if shortlisted. The closing date for receipt of applications is **23rd June 2019**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

In ISGlobal we are committed to maintaining and developing a work environment in which the values and principles of our organization are respected and equal opportunities between women and men be promoted in each of the areas in which we operate, not tolerating discrimination based on criteria such as age, sex, marital status, race, ethnicity, disabilities, political leanings, religion or sexual orientation.

"In accordance with articles 5 and 6 of Law 15/1999 on personal data protection, we inform you that your personal data will be incorporated into a Human Resources file, for which the Private Foundation Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) is responsible. If you do not inform us otherwise, ISGlobal will understand that you have consented to the processing of your data. Your information will not be disclosed to individuals or legal public or private entities without your consent unless authorized by law. You can exercise your rights to access, rectify, cancel and oppose the use of your personal information by contacting ISGlobal by post at C/Rosselló, 132, 5è 2a and 7è, 08036 - Barcelona or by email at info@isglobal.org.