

Senior Laboratory Advisor at The Center for International Health, Education and Biosecurity (CIHEB)

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Job Description

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Ciheb is an international health, education, and research center founded by the Institute of Human Virology within the University of Maryland, Baltimore's School of Medicine. The center is comprised of a network of international experts who work with local stakeholders to combat infectious and non-communicable diseases in resource-limited regions of the world. Ciheb currently implements programs in seven countries. Our expertise is in technical assistance for health service delivery (with a particularly strong history of improving service delivery for HIV/TB prevention, care, and treatment; and for associated infectious and non-communicable diseases), training and equipping human resources for health, quality improvement, health information and research, and outbreak surveillance and biosecurity. Ciheb works at all health system levels, and all our programs incorporate facility and community-based programming

Primary Responsibilities:

Support KENPHIA to conduct a baseline assessment of the NHRL and identify satellite laboratories for the study and follow through to equip and ensure the preparedness of the laboratories for the survey

Develop and/or update training materials, sample referral/network systems and data management systems to appropriately capture the project requirements as per the protocol

Build capacity and provide technical support to all Field, satellite and Central lab (NHRL) staff on KENPHIA lab procedures, techniques and other activities

Develop and ensure the implementation of precise laboratory policies, supervisory checklist, SOPs and manuals to implement a large-scale national population-based household survey with biomarkers

Lead the development of work plans for Incidence (Recency) testing, HIV DR testing, ARV metabolite testing and any other tests as per protocol for KENPHIA and perform routine Quality Assurance measures in all phases of biomedical testing

Coordinate the development of quality control materials and panels, shipment, distribution and analysis for the survey, working with technical leads to develop a laboratory chain of custody to ensure participant samples are tested and participant results are returned in time to the appropriate facilities

Work with all stakeholders to develop and/or update policy and guidelines for national specimen networking, repository and use through the National Laboratory TWG

Oversee, develop and implement a Sample Storage Plan in collaboration with key stakeholders for proper storage of KENPHIA samples for both short and long-term sample integrity for the MoH Kenya

Monitor and provide technical support to procurement and logistics for all laboratory supplies needed for testing of KENPHIA samples and communicate stock needs to the warehouse

Ensure laboratory specimen data are correctly captured in the study database to ensure accurate and well tracked testing and assist with routine data analysis and interpretation of laboratory results from the KENPHIA project and provide feedback on ways to improve/streamline lab procedures and systems

Provide clear and concise periodic Laboratory reports for internal and external audiences to monitor progress towards achieving the project milestones

Qualifications:

A Master's degree or higher in any laboratory field with 10 years' experience and a valid KMLTTB license

Extensive knowledge in HIV and TB laboratory diagnostics, QMS including PT proficiency and Data management using Laboratory Information Management systems, specifically CAPI and/or LDMS

Experience working in complex large-scale USG donor funded Laboratory Strengthening programs is required, population survey experience will be an added advantage

Demonstrated expertise working in a leadership capacity coordinating multiple stakeholders including donors, senior government and county officials and policymakers

Demonstrated skills in the technical aspects of Lab strengthening with Excellent oral and written organizational skills and knowledge of the Kenyan health system

A systematic approach to tasks, hands-on, detail oriented and motivated self- starter with ability to lead and work as part of a team

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