

Research Assistant in early childhood development (for EN-SMILING study)

Terms of Reference:

The Research Assistant will be engaged to work on a casual basis with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine's MARCH team working on an early childhood development metrics study 'EN-SMILING' (Every Newborn - Simplified Measurement Integrating Longitudinal Neurodevelopment & Growth) in multi-country study in Tanzania, Bangladesh and Nepal working closely with WHO and UNICEF in country.

EN-SMILING is a developmental follow-up study of a cohort of newborns identified through a newborn health study, who have been exposed to basic newborn interventions including newborn resuscitation, kangaroo mother care (KMC) and treatment for presumed serious bacterial infections, at participating health facilities in Tanzania, Bangladesh and Nepal. This cohort study will follow children exposed to these interventions as well as an unexposed comparison group to the age of 2 years to extend understanding of child development measurement through health services, from birth onwards. This will have important implications for early identification of adverse developmental outcomes after exposure to basic newborn interventions in low- and middle-income settings. The study is funded by the Children's Investment Fund Foundation.

The Research Assistant will be London based and primarily will support operationalising research activities including the development of training materials for relevant child development screening and assessment tools and related standard operating procedures.

Description of work:

Research Assistant role includes support for the following study activities:

- Development of EN-SMILING 0-2 early childhood development training materials to use for an anticipated 2-3 week in country training
- Development of EN-SMILING 0-2 early childhood development standard operating procedures
- Coordination of EN-SMILING 0-2 Training working group calls with the 3 country sites, leading on meeting organisation and meeting minutes
- Other EN-SMILING 0-2 study activities as necessary

Essential skills needed: Good management, technical writing and visual graphic skills;

Desirable skills needed: Understanding of child development; Experience with child health in LMICs

Dates of engagement: All of February starting as soon as possible until March, with possible extension

Hours and rate of work:

The role will be approximately five days per week. The role holder will work up to a maximum of 20 days during the dates of engagement.

The salary will be on the Research Assistant scale, Grade 5 in the range £33,567 to £38,533 per annum depending on qualifications and experience. The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service.

Salary payments will be made on the 24th day of each month for work undertaken the previous month following submission and approval of signed off timesheets on the last day of the month.

For example the first salary payment would be on 24th October 2017 for work undertaken up to 30th September 2017 (so long as timesheets are submitted by 30th September at the latest).

Please send your CV and responses to the following questions to Vicki Hardy (Victoria.Ponce-Hardy1@lshtm.ac.uk) by Thursday 1st February 2018.

Question	Response
1. What consideration do you think will be important in setting up training?	
2. What skills do you have that you can bring this position?	
3. Why are you interested in this role? Please detail.	