

University of Zimbabwe - Clinical Trials Research Centre (UZ-CTRC)
VACANT POST - PROVINCIAL TECHNICAL LEAD

University of Zimbabwe - Clinical Trials Research Centre (UZ-CTRC) is seeking suitably trained, competent, talented, multi-task and qualified Provincial Technical Lead.

UZ-CTRC was established in 1994 and has conducted high impact observational studies, implementation studies and Phase I-IV clinical trials in HIV, TB, COVID -19 and associated co-morbidities funded by National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, AIDS Malignancy Consortium, Bill, and Melinda Gates Foundation among others. UZ-CTRC has served as a center of excellence in the prevention and control of HIV and AIDS and have contributed to global understanding of HIV epidemiology and pathogenesis, global and Zimbabwean health policy, by providing scientific evidence through our highly equipped and resourced network of laboratories that operate in strict compliance with International best practices guided by GCLP and ISO 15189 standard.

UZ-CTRC is implementing a US Center for Disease Control and Prevention-US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (CDC-PEPFAR) funded Laboratory Systems Strengthening (LSS) program in Zimbabwe from 2023 to 2026 supporting the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC). The LSS program will enhance access to high quality testing towards the achievement of the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals.

Qualifications and Experience

- A degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences or equivalent is required.
- A post Graduate degree in relevant Laboratory Discipline.
- Certification in Medical Laboratory Quality Management System (ISO15189/SLMTA or equivalent.) is required.
- Knowledge in Laboratory Quality Improvement Initiatives required.
- Work experience in HIV Viral Load scale-up, EID and TB testing, Laboratory Systems Strengthening, Laboratory QMS and CLI implementation in related/similar setting is required.
- Registered with the Medical Laboratory & Clinical Scientists Council of Zimbabwe. (MLCSCZ)
- At least 5 years' experience in a similar role and settings is required.
- Experience with Laboratory diagnostics and processes is required.
- Work experience in MoHCC Medical Laboratories is an added advantage.
- Computer literacy is required.

Responsibilities

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

- Provide guidance on laboratory QMS implementation to laboratory teams as per ISO15189 requirements, thus, ensuring production of reliable quality test results.
- Provide laboratory advice and assistance in initiating and improving ongoing laboratory testing.
- Assist lab teams to optimize VL/EID/TB specimen flow and testing to achieve set targets.
- Work collaboratively with laboratory teams within MoHCC Laboratories on inventory management and optimal use of available resources including testing equipment reagents and consumables.
- Improve existing referral systems among testing laboratories.
- Guide and develop necessary tools to conduct the laboratory mentorship.
- Assist laboratory teams in quality assurance programs.
- Training laboratory personnel on Quality Management Systems as per ISO15189 standard and Documented National QMS requirements.
- Work closely with assigned VL/EID testing laboratories and provide mentorship and technical assistance.
- Collaboration: Work closely with health facilities in the province/catchment area in collaboration with clinical partners and MOHCC provincial and district teams to ensure effective coordination of laboratory activities.
- Performance Monitoring
- Supervision: Oversee and provide administrative supervision to all UZ-CTRC (University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials and Research Center seconded staff at the provinces, including Project scientist, district mentors, scientists, IST drivers, Provincial IST coordinators, LIMS Officers, lab technicians, riders, Data Entry Clerks (DEC), and Data and Sample Management Officers (DSMO).

Clinical and Laboratory Interphase (CLI)

- To work closely with health facilities in the catchment area in collaboration with clinical partners, District mentors and Provincial scientist to ensure a seamless chain of planned activities.
- To work closely with Lab coaches in implementing quality improvement projects. To ensure that the required reports are of good quality and submitted on time.

Rapid Testing Continuous Quality Improvement (RTCQI)

- To support continuous quality improvement in Rapid HIV tests and advanced HIV disease rapid tests
- To Support testing points with corrective actions
- To carry out SPIRRT
- To work with clinical implementing partner coaches and district quality focal people
- To conduct Trainings/ refresher trainings for testing staff

Reports

- Coordinate Preparation of daily, weekly and monthly reports and review and share timeously as requested by Diagnostics advisor, and M&E.
- Providing regular updates on program activities, progress, and challenges to the immediate supervisor
- Ensure that all program targets for assigned catchments and laboratories are met, including VL targets and CQI/accreditation targets.

To apply

Interested candidates should forward applications and detailed curriculum vitae to the email address below not later than 6 December 2024: -

applications@uz-ctrc.org.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Canvassing candidates will be disqualified.