

BUSINESS UNIT: NICD
DISCIPLINE: CENTRE FOR ENTERIC DISEASES
LOCATION: SANDRINGHAM
POSITION: MEDICAL SCIENTIST (FIXED TERM CONTRACT – 12 MONTHS)
RE-ADVERTISEMENT
PAY GRADE: ENTRY
REFERENCE NUMBER: NICDCDC0620/002-01

An exciting opportunity exist to join the Centre for Enteric Diseases and to participate in the national diarrhoeal surveillance program. The Centre monitors trends in diarrheal pathogens incidence and provides information to combat diarrhoeal diseases in South Africa. We are looking for a dynamic Medical Scientist who will work as part of our team involved in the detection of enteric pathogens and molecular typing of virus strains. This position will provide the applicant with the opportunity to obtain experience in an accredited laboratory and to work with molecular methods. If you are self- motivated, detail-driven, passionate about enteric diseases and want to contribute to the public health in South Africa, you should apply.

Key Job Responsibilities

- Participate in receiving, labelling and processing of clinical specimens in a timeous manner
- Perform laboratory techniques for surveillance of enteric pathogens including but not limited to ELISA-based detection, extraction of enteric pathogen genetic material, molecular detection and genotyping using real-time RT-PCR and PCR
- Enter information and results onto the database in a timeous manner
- Participate in research being conducted in the laboratory as required by senior staff members
- Assist in monitoring laboratory stock to ensure availability of stock at all times
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- Assist with general laboratory upkeep, maintenance and cleanliness
- Assist with calibration and maintenance of laboratory equipment to ensure accurate and reliable results
- Assist with monitoring of temperature dependent equipment to ensure operation within acceptable ranges
- Assist with general accreditation requirements in order to meet accreditation criteria and maintain ongoing accreditation
- Understand the principles of Good Laboratory Practice and adheres to these principles when working in the laboratory
- Train junior staff and visiting scientists (if required) to ensure skills transfer and competency
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- Attend and present journal clubs and scientific talks as required by senior staff members.

Minimum requirements & key competencies

- BSc (Hons) is essential / MSc an advantage in Medical Science or related field
- HPCSA registration as medical scientist (Virology or Microbiology) is essential
- Experience in gastroenteritis or enteric lab, an advantage
- Experience in a SANAS accredited lab, an advantage
- Involvement in development and validation of either one or more diagnostic methodology or significant modification to existing applications or procedures
- Scientific research abstract at least one
- Training of students or co-supervision of small research project
- Communication skills (verbal and written)
- Attention to detail
- Problem solving skills
- Accuracy skills
- Computer literacy
- Interpersonal skills.

Enquiries may be directed to Zinhle Buthelezi @ 011 885 5404, e-mail application to Recruiter1@nicd.ac.za .