

BUSINESS UNIT: NICD
DISCIPLINE: CENTRE FOR HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS,
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE AND MYCOSES
LOCATION: SANDRINGHAM
POSITION: PATHOLOGIST
PAY GRADE: PHP
REFERENCE NUMBER: NICD0121/001-01

To contribute to the management of a Centre reference laboratory within the framework of a quality system. To ensure that the reference diagnostic and surveillance/ research output is delivered in accordance with the principles of good laboratory practice and to provide a professional consultative service to clinicians and other centre stakeholders. To promote appropriate and cost effective utilisation of laboratory services so as to facilitate optimization of patient management and the public health objectives of the centre. To contribute to training and research outputs.

Key Job Responsibilities

Service

- Responsible for management of a centre reference laboratory and supervision of laboratory staff in collaboration with the laboratory manager
- Active involvement within the NHLS/ University/ Department of Health/ professional bodies/ global health agencies promoting discipline- and/or organisational- strategic objectives at an international, regional, national level
- Support or coordinate national and regional proficiency testing schemes in microbiology
- Responsible for the final reference diagnostic report sent out to the clinicians. Interact and consult with clinicians, infection control practitioners, hospital managers and other stakeholders to ensure that requested special investigations and proposed reference diagnostic tests are appropriate
- Provide expert advice to all internal and external customers in order to resolve clinical, reference diagnostic and infection outbreak-related queries and concerns in a professional and timely manner and responds to complaints about any aspect of the pathology service output in a professional and timely manner to promote sound customer relations
- Lead the quality assurance team in the centre to comply with SANAS requirements and ensure continuous quality improvement
- Comply with the principles of good laboratory practice, full SANAS accreditation requirements and relevant legislation
- Introduce or improve diagnostic and interpretation techniques/ procedures and validate new instruments/ tests for national programmes.

Teaching and Training

- Teach and train pathology staff (Registrars, Scientists, Technologists, Technicians) and other healthcare workers
- Contribute towards teaching and training of undergraduate and postgraduate students in accordance with university and NICD requirements
- Contribute to the departmental CPD-accredited programmes.

Research and surveillance

- Seek external funding for surveillance and research
- Responsible to design, implement and report on relevant surveillance programmes at a national and international level in collaboration with centre epidemiologists
- Conduct infection outbreak investigations in collaboration with centre epidemiologists and advise on appropriate reference laboratory investigations
- Conduct research in order to contribute to publications and other technical/scientific outputs and towards translation of policy and service
- Collaborate with other departments/ organisations at a national and international level.

Minimum requirements and Key Competencies

■MBChB and MMed/ FCPATH in microbiology or clinical pathology ■PhD in microbiology or related field (desirable) ■Post-graduate qualification in epidemiology or infection control (desirable) ■Registration with the HPCSA as a pathologist in microbiology or clinical pathology (Independent practice category) ■At least 5 years' experience as pathologist consultant; at least 1 year of laboratory management experience ■Laboratory safety procedures ■Working knowledge in Medical conditions, in particular clinical pathological correlation ■Principles of analytical methodology ■Laboratory quality assurance processes ■Method validation including statistical calculations ■Principles of applied research methodology (At least 10 Peer Reviewed Publications over last 3 years, at least 4 as first/senior author) ■Practical laboratory techniques where relevant ■Computer literacy ■Communication skills ■Presentation skills ■Analytical and diagnosing ■Problem Solving ■Conducting research (experience as a PI on a National Grant and PI in research projects at local level) ■Experience as a member of national committees or working groups.

Enquiries may be directed to Azia Nxumalo @ 011 555 0581, email application to Recruiter4@nicd.ac.za