

1 PhD student position available at Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda) – ESC1

PhD student position available to develop his/her thesis within the SUPPORT project (funded by EDCTP3): action *'Supporting the next generation of African researchers on preventing HIV pediatric mortality through a training network'*, a highly multidisciplinary, international and competitive training program in pediatrics research.

RESEARCH PROJECT: EVALUATION OF THE ACCURACY OF A NEW "SEVERITY BIOMARKER" TO PREDICT POST DISCHARGE MORTALITY (PDM) IN A COHORT OF CLHIV AND OTHER RISK FACTORS

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This research aims to enhance the identification of children at a higher risk of post-discharge mortality among the study population. Two complementary analyses will be conducted. Firstly, clinical, epidemiological, and laboratory variables will be examined to identify the primary risk factors associated with post-discharge mortality. An easy-to-use calculator will be developed to assist clinicians in identifying patients at a higher risk. Secondly, the performance of a "severity biomarker" will be analyzed as a predictor of mortality in this population. This novel biomarker could significantly enhance clinicians' ability to identify patients at the highest risk, contribute to their prioritization, and will complement the clinical calculator.

WHAT WE OFFER

- A 36-month contract to undertake a PhD at Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda)
- A competitive gross salary according to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie training network tables taking into account family status and mobility (gross salary including employer's social contribution and without family allowance: 2,284.80€/Month)
- The integration in a network composed of 14 European and African institutions specialized in pediatrics
- A 3-month secondment at ISGlobal (Barcelona, Spain)
- An extensive multidisciplinary training in research and transferable skills
- The Access to state-of-the-art infrastructures

REQUIREMENTS

- Hold a master degree in a relevant field (preferably in clinical discipline, Public health, epidemiology, or similar)
- Proficiency in English (oral and written) is mandatory (an interview in English will be conducted during the recruitment process)
- Willingness to work for at least two years in a Sub-Saharan country after the PhD completion

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Be a citizen or resident of a Sub-Saharan country

Expected starting date: January 2025

Send your CV, a cover letter detailing your motivation to pursue a research career in pediatric infectious diseases in Sub-Saharan African, a recommendation letter and an additional contact for recommendation, to globalhealth.pediatrics.group@gmail.com before June 14th 2024. Please quote the **reference ESC 1** in the object of the email.