

Next Generation Projects 2015-2016

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1. Support for a Quality Improvement Collaborative to Reduce Early Infant Diagnosis Turnaround Time

Internship Code: CMR-1

Location: Cameroon

Duration: 2-3 months, starting in June 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to assist with the Quality Improvement Capacity for Impact Project (QICIP) in Cameroon, which provides support to the Ministry of Health to launch a quality improvement (QI) learning collaborative aimed at improving the turnaround time for PCR testing for early infant diagnosis (EID). The internship will be based in the ICAP in Cameroon Central office in Yaoundé. As the student will be supporting field QICIP work at Ayos Regional Hospital, Ngoumou District Hospital and Bikop Private Medical Center, travel will be required on a biweekly basis.

Tasks:

- Conduct literature review of quality improvement (QI) interventions and projects related to improving EID PCR and turnaround time for EID; including successful approaches, challenges and opportunities
- Assist QI Advisor in ongoing supportive supervision to facilities to support implementation of QI processes and to submit accurate monthly reports on the QI collaborative indicators
- Assist the QI and M&E Advisors to analyze health facility data for QICIP
- Document observed successful “change package” interventions, strategies and tools for improving EID PCR turnaround time (TOT), which can be shared with other Districts

Desired Qualifications

- Current MSPH student

2. Support the roll out of an SMS appointment reminder system

Location Code: KEN-1

Location: Kenya

Duration: June-August, 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support the roll out of an SMS appointment reminder text message system within its supported facilities that are equipped with electronic medical records. Several studies have shown that SMS text message appointment reminders can improve adherence to HIV medication and clinical care appointments. ICAP in Kenya is currently finalizing the design of an SMS appointment reminder system and would require the potential intern to help craft short SMS appointment reminder messages together with the ICAP Clinical Program Team, design a consent form to allow ICAP to send SMS appointment reminders, train healthcare workers in the selected pilot facilities on this initiative and pilot the same for a period of 1 month.

Tasks:

- Help craft short SMS appointment reminder messages together with the ICAP Clinical Program Team
- Design a consent form to allow ICAP to send SMS appointment reminders
- Train healthcare workers in the selected pilot facilities on this initiative
- Pilot the SMS appointment reminder system

Desired Qualifications

- Strong organization and communication skills

3. Support for TB/HIV in Migrant Miners in Project

Internship code: LSO-1

Location: Lesotho

Duration: June-August 2016, 6 months preferred

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support a CDC-funded Global Technical Assistance (TA) project to address TB/HIV in migrant miners, ex-miners and their families in Lesotho. Under the supervision of the Lesotho-based Technical Director and Project Coordinator, the student will contribute to the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and documentation of an integrated public-private partnership (PPP) to reduce the burden of TB and HIV among Basotho miners and their families.

Tasks:

- Assist ICAP project management staff with development of job aids / tools to assure quality and standardized implementation of activities (e.g., number system for smooth client flow)
- Assist the project staff with development of new data collection and reporting tools to assure accurate M&E of all components of the project (e.g. referral to home based care program, enrollment into care, TB screening, tracking within community, consumption of consumables)
- Assist project health care workers with the recording and reporting of all project-related indicators
- Assist ICAP project coordinator with compilation and analysis of project-related data and provision of feedback to project staff
- Assist ICAP project coordinator with the implementation of a mobile phone application to be used by care supporters to support treatment adherence, to track miners across the border and assure continuation of treatment, to strengthen documentation of contact tracing, treatment status and outcomes and to monitor program implementation
- Help provide refresher trainings to health care workers (lay counsellors, nurses, lab technicians) on project Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to assure quality implementation of core activities, including health education, patient flow, TB screening, TB diagnosis, TB treatment, follow up and adherence support, contact tracing, HIV testing and counselling and HIV care and treatment

Desired Qualifications:

- Current MSPH student

- Excellent oral/written communication, interpersonal, organizational, and computer skills
- Flexible, open-minded, and able to easily adapt to new challenges

Preferred Qualifications:

- Background in international or U.S.-based M&E and/or implementation research
- Experience living in sub-Saharan Africa or other resource-limited settings
- Experience working on TB- and HIV-related issues in resource-limited settings is highly desired
- Ability to commit six months to working on the project and living in Lesotho
- Experience with data analysis software and creation of reports

4. Support for the Accelerating Children's HIV/AIDS Treatment (ACT) Project

Internship Code: LSO-2

Location: Lesotho

Duration: 3-6 months, starting in June 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to work on the Lesotho Accelerating Children's HIV/AIDS Treatment (ACT) project, which is part of the larger ACT initiative funded by the CDC that aims to double the number of children active on antiretroviral therapy (ART) in two years. The ICAP ACT project is focused on strengthening the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems to enable the Lesotho Ministry of Health (MOH) and its partners to generate and use quality and timely data for evidence-based decisions. This project will include two activities that a student could work on: 1) assessment of pediatric HIV testing and linkage to care services, and 2) evaluation of retention of HIV-infected mothers and their HIV exposed infants at 18 months. The results of these activities are expected to help 1) identify gaps in M&E tools and procedures, and 2) assist the MOH in revising tools and to establish a system for timely reporting and use of data for programmatic decisions.

Tasks:

- Conduct data cleaning and analysis
- Create M&E toolkits
- Assist in data collection

Desired Qualifications:

- Current MSPH student
- Strong quantitative skills

5. Support for PrEPared & Strong Study

*This internship is currently available. Submitted applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Internship code: NYC-1

Location: New York, NY

Duration: Spring 2016, with potential to extend through summer

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support an NIH-funded community-based clinical trial of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis for Black men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women, PrEPared & Strong. Under the supervision of the Study Coordinator, the student will contribute to study implementation by engaging potential and enrolled participants at the study site; and supporting recruitment and retention efforts.

Tasks:

- Greet potential and enrolled participants at the study site and navigate them through study procedures when needed
- Conduct eligibility screening procedures
- Assist in participant retention activities
- Maintain study files to ensure confidentiality and accessibility
- Assist in compilation and presentation of study data
- Participate in regular study meetings and trainings
- Assist in summarizing data and preparation of presentations for scientific meetings

Desired Qualifications:

- Current Columbia University student
- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills
- Flexible, open-minded, and able to easily adapt to new challenges

Preferred Qualifications:

- Community-based outreach experience
- Experience conducting outreach in, or familiarity with, Gay/MSM venues and communities
- Experience working with diverse, medically underserved, high risk populations and communities
- Demonstrated experience working in teams and independently, and exercising initiative and discretion when handling confidential information
- Effectively maintains professional boundaries in diverse public settings
- Previous experience working with and employing recruitment and retention strategies in programs or research studies
- Knowledge of New York City communities of MSM

6. Support for assessment of broadly neutralizing antibodies to prevent HIV

Internship code: NYC-2

Location: New York, NY

Duration: June- August 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student intern to support a NIH-funded clinical research trial, HVTN 703/HPTN 081, the AMP study, to test the antibody VRC01 against HIV. Under the supervision of the Site Data Manager and Site Coordinator, the student will contribute to study implementation and data management, including quality control of study data and quality assurance activities.

Tasks:

- Conduct data monitoring and quality assurance on data collected for the study, including:
 - Review paper study case report forms and source documents for completeness and issue queries to research staff
 - Assist with submission of study forms to the statistical and data management center
 - Assist with prompt review of all data queries and their immediate resolution
 - Identify problem areas with data collection, report findings to the project's leadership, and develop with input from the team appropriate corrective measures
 - Review eligibility criteria of screened study participants for enrollment, including review of eligibility case report forms, source documents and informed consent forms
- Help the study team prepare IRB submissions and updates as needed
- Assist in summarizing data and preparation of presentations for scientific meetings

Desired Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- Columbia University student
- Excellent oral/written communication, interpersonal, organizational, and computer skills
- Flexible, open-minded, and able to easily adapt to new challenges

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in statistics
- Experience working with research and data management is highly desired

7. Support for conducting a situational analysis of Nurse-Initiated and Managed Antiretroviral Therapy (NIMART)

Internship Code: ZAF-1

Location: South Africa

Duration: 3-6 months, starting in June 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support conducting a situational analysis of Nurse-Initiated and Managed Antiretroviral Therapy (NIMART). Included in the situational analysis is a self-administered survey to assess NIMART nurses' perspectives and experiences with regard to NIMART training, supervision and ongoing practice that will be delivered to all nurses at participating health facilities. The student will develop a system to monitor receipt of completed surveys, and will prepare a database for analysis, assist with quantitative and qualitative analyses and summarizing results of the situational analysis.

Tasks:

- Develop a system for tracking distribution of the nurse survey, receipt of completed surveys, and conduct follow-ups at participating health facilities
- Review surveys for completeness and manage database with all completed survey data
- Assist with data analyses (quantitative and qualitative)
- Assist in summarizing results of the situational analysis and developing reports to the funder

Desired Qualifications:

- Current MSPH student
- Experience living in sub-Saharan Africa or other resource limited settings
- Excellent oral/written communication, interpersonal, organizational, and computer skills
- Flexible, open-minded, and able to easily adapt to new challenges
- Ability to commit to a minimum of 3 months working and living in South Africa
- Proficient in Microsoft Excel

Preferred Qualifications:

- Background in international or U.S.-based M&E and/or other research
- Experience working on HIV related issues in resource-limited settings
- Experience with data analysis software and creation of reports
- Experience with or interest in qualitative data collection and analysis

8. *Support for the Global TA Pediatric HIV Surveillance Project*

Internship code: SWZ-1

Location: Swaziland

Duration: June-August 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support the Global Technical Assistance Pediatric HIV Surveillance Project in Swaziland. Under this project, ICAP is providing strategic technical assistance to improve the capacity of the Swaziland Ministry of Health and the Swaziland National AIDS Program to gather information on pediatric HIV incidence, prevalence, and case characteristic trends through the establishment, analysis and use of a routine pediatric HIV case reporting surveillance system.

Tasks:

- Assist in conducting a review to describe the implementation of project elements, and identify accomplishments & challenges
- Analyze preliminary data from the surveillance system
- Compile the above findings in a national report

Desired Qualifications:

- Research experience and/or global health program experience
- Proficient in MS Excel

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience analyzing quantitative data
- Experience conducting qualitative interviews

9. Support for Link4HealthHEART Project

Internship code: SWZ-2

Location: New York or Swaziland, depending on project needs and student interest

Duration: January-April 2016

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support the Link4Health HEART Project, an implementation science study that aims to identify an optimal approach for screening cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors (CVDRF) and determine an optimal management approach for these risk factors among people living with HIV enrolled in care and treatment. The study takes place in one hospital in Swaziland. The study will screen HIV clinic patients for CVDRF, and randomize individuals who screen positive for CVDRF to receive their CVDRF management in the outpatient department (OPD) or integrated with their HIV care and treatment. The study outcomes are the feasibility and acceptability of screening for CVDRF in an HIV clinic, and the effectiveness of the integrated vs. referred CVDRF management strategies.

Tasks: Assist the study coordinators in all aspects of the project

Desired Qualifications:

- Research experience and/or global health program experience
- Proficient in MS Excel

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with tablet-based data collection
- Experience with study monitoring (data quality assurance, adherence to protocol etc.)
- Experience writing SOPs
- Experience analyzing qualitative data

10. Support for Safe Generations Plus Project

Internship code: SWZ-3

Location: New York or Swaziland, depending on project needs and student interest

Duration: January-April 2016, with potential to extend through the summer

Description: ICAP seeks a student to support the Safe Generations Plus Project, an implementation science study that aims to understand how to improve retention in care and treatment services to HIV positive pregnant women and their babies in Swaziland. We will evaluate outcomes of patients who are loss-to-follow-up (LTF) under a new approach for prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) called Option B+, where all HIV positive pregnant women initiate lifelong antiretroviral therapy (ART) regardless of their disease stage. The goal is to understand the outcomes of patients who are LTF from care, and the reasons for disengagement from care in the context of PMTCT in order to inform efforts to improve retention in care among patients under Option B+.

Tasks: Assist the study coordinators in all aspects of the project

Desired Qualifications:

- Research experience and/or global health program experience
- Proficient in MS Excel

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with tablet-based data collection
- Experience with study monitoring (data quality assurance, adherence to protocol etc.)
- Experience writing SOPs
- Experience analyzing qualitative data

11. Support for Key and Priority Populations Project

Internship Code: TZA-1

Location: Tanzania

Duration: June – August 2016

Description: The project focuses on increasing access to health care for men who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers, and targeted prevention interventions for adolescent girls.

Tasks:

- Analyze key/priority population program data to identify gaps in program implementation
- Design and implement quality improvement innovations in response to gaps identified, working with ICAP staff and community outreach workers
- Investigate reasons for low HIV positivity rate among key populations in Mwanza

Desired Qualifications

- Advanced student in public health, and related social science fields
- Innovative and creative, able to think outside the box