



**Missionsärztliches Institut Würzburg**

Katholische Fachstelle für internationale Gesundheit

*... mehr Gesundheit  
in der Einen Welt.*

## **Job description for anaesthesia fellowship, Bugando Centre, Mwanza, Tanzania**

### **Introduction**

The Medical Mission Institute (MMI) works with worldwide academic centres to support a variety of health related educational and development programmes. The partnership with Bugando Medical Centre (BMC) spans over 15 years and focuses on research, support of educational programmes and assistance in capacity building. The overall aim of the partnership is to strengthen the university and hospital by improving training, clinical services, and research.

### **Bugando Medical Centre**

Mwanza is the second largest city in Tanzania located on shores of the famous Lake Victoria in the northern east part of Tanzania. BMC is one of the four tertiary referral consultant hospitals in the country and serves a population of 15 million people. It is a 900-bed university hospital and has all major departments in surgery, medicine, paediatrics, anaesthesia/ICU, oncology, obstetrics and gynaecology, accident and emergency and other departments.

The hospital is closely affiliated with the Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS). CUHAS has a medical school and runs a variety of anaesthesia educational programmes. The majority of anaesthesia in Tanzania is provided by anaesthetic nurses which are trained on a one-year certificate programme. BMC has such a certificate programme with approximate 60 students per year and forms a key aspect of this fellowship.

### **Anaesthetic services**

BMC has 10 general, two obstetrics and two emergencies theatres. The 13-bed interdisciplinary ICU is run by the anaesthetic department and accommodates both adults and children. As the tertiary referral centre, BMC receives a diverse case mix, with patients generally presenting at very advanced stage of their disease. Additionally, it manages rare and complex surgical cases that cannot be performed at regional hospitals. The surgical specialities available here include general surgery, urology, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatric surgery, ophthalmology, ENT, neurosurgery, cardiothoracic, plastics, orthopaedics and traumatology.

There are three Tanzanian anaesthesiologist and 12-15 anaesthetic nurses that lead the services. Numerous nursing students attending the 12-month certificate course in anaesthesia are distributed in the theatres. Together with medical students, nursing students and the usual theatre staff the rooms are crowded. You can always expect a bunch of spectators watching! Remote anaesthesia services involving sedation for the endoscopy, burns, bone marrow biopsies and CT scans are also part of the workload.

All theatre rooms have monitors that are able to measure oxygen saturations, BP and ECG as minimum. ETCO<sub>2</sub> availability is variable. There are a range of different anaesthesia machines using halothane, Isoflurane and Sevoflurane. They are supplied by pressurised wall oxygen and air with passive scavenging systems.

### **Role of the Fellow**

The fellow will be an integral part of this department. The role will largely be teaching with clinical responsibilities in theatres.

### **Teaching**

- Teaching for anaesthetic nurse students (one-year certificate course)
- Teaching for ICU nurses
- Clinical training for the nurse anaesthesia students in theatre daily on a range of list
- Assistance in writing, planning and organising end of semester exams
- Once a week morning report teaching in the anaesthesia department

### **Clinical work**

- Excellent clinical exposure by working on a range of list
- Fellow will have a medical licence therefore will undertake clinical work
- Once more confident, theatre coordination will also be expected under the supervision of local anaesthesiologist
- The anaesthesia work is a good mixture of adults and paediatrics with predominance of general anaesthesia
- Spinal anaesthesia and regional anaesthesia techniques are commonly performed in the department
- Head of the department Dr Kenemo, will provide daily supervision
- Fellow will be expected to work one weekend every six weeks after an initial two-month grace period
- There is no night shift work
- Normal working hours are 7:30 am – 5 pm
- If there is clinical need or an emergency out of hours, the fellow may be expected to offer help
- Assistance in the intensive care unit when needed

### **Quality improvement**

- One of the key roles of the fellow will be working with the faculty to help improve and strength the department

- The main QI project for the fellow will be assisting to write pre-operative assessment clinic protocols
- A list of protocols needed will be provided at the start of the placement. A first draft will be expected at 3 months and a revised copy will be expected to be handed in at the end of the placement

### **Research**

- There are a number of research projects running in the department. The fellow is expected to have an overview of the projects and be available to provide assistance when needed
- There is possibility to start a new project if the fellow is interested. Financial support will be provided if the project is viable and useful to the department

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The fellow will act as the key link between BMC and the MMI. The international faculty will visit at regular intervals but will not be based in the country permanently. We strongly encourage our volunteers to integrate with the local partners and learn from them about the culture and the system. They are a tremendous source of Information and wisdom, which forms an invaluable part of the support network available to the fellow. The main responsibility of the fellow will be education, which will be via formal teaching but also through role modelling which will help to generate an environment that is conducive to learning.

All decisions are shared with mutual respect for one another. Cultural sensitivity is extremely important in Tanzania and is of paramount importance in our partnership with BMC. The fellow will be expected to act professional at all times when engaged with the project and any issues need to be discussed with the faculty as soon as problem. The environment can be very challenging and overwhelming at times. Therefore, it is extremely important that there is open discussion between the fellow and the faculty. The MMI encourages relax and rest periods on a regular basis to ensure the wellbeing of the fellow.

### **Support provided by the RCOA**

This post is a RCOA fellowship and therefore is appointed and endorsed by the college for mutual benefit.

The college will provide assistance and support in the following ways

- The RCoA will be involved with recruitment and advertising to a level which is appropriate
- The RCoA will provide an Educational Supervisor/Mentor. This is particularly important as the trainee is counting the period of time towards training.
- The RCoA will be keen to support any endeavours related to teaching, training, education and raising standards
- The trainee will give an interim report to the Global Partnerships
- At the end the trainee will write a report detailing their experience which will be stored on the Global Partnerships website and may be published in the Bulletin

### **Support available to the fellow**

- This is a 6-month placement but can be extended to a year if all parties agree
- Five two-hour evening classes on intercultural behaviour and intercultural aspects of teaching and training are part of the assignment. The fellow is expected to participate in this course as well as in the evaluation of the impact of this course on teaching.
- A six-month post will offer 14 days of annual leave along with all nationally observed holidays in Tanzania
- The fellow is entitled to one week of study leave and the request needs to be submitted to Dr Kenemo and Dr Aziz at least 6 weeks in advance
- Educational supervision will be provided by an UK anaesthesia consultant from the project and an additional supervisor appointed by RCOA
- There will be a formal debrief once a month with a member of the faculty
- A member of the project faculty will do induction in the UK. This will be done face to face with full debrief of the project and detailed cultural training prior to starting the post. A PDF of all relevant information will be provided.
- Financial supported will be provided by the MMI. The post holder will be provided with one return flight, free accommodation, one intercultural training course in Tanzania, all bills paid for and a monthly allowance of £700
- Accommodation will be in a private one-bedroom apartment near the hospital that is fully equipped.
- All cost related to medical registration and visa will be covered
- The fellow will be responsible for his/her own medical insurance and malaria prophylaxis /vaccinations.
- Mwanza has a great social network and the project has excellent links to other foreign visitors both in and out of the hospital. The long-term visitors in the hospital provide an excellent support network and are good friends of the project. The fellow will be introduced into this group and we will work closely with them to ensure an excellent support network for our fellow. The town has a variety of social activities including cycling, swimming, spinning, yoga and monthly “pub” quiz nights (Facebook group “Mwanza expats”).

**For further questions please Contact Dr Riaz Aziz at [azizriaz@googlemail.com](mailto:azizriaz@googlemail.com)**