

Clinton Health Access Initiative

Senior Research Associate, Vaccines

Job Location: Boston

Business Unit: Major Programs

More information about this job:

Overview:

The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) recently reached a strategic decision to apply the techniques it has used successfully to improve access to HIV/AIDS and malaria treatment in developing countries to essential vaccines. Rotavirus and pneumococcal pneumonia currently kill approximately 800,000 children each year, with 80% of these deaths occurring in the developing world. By scaling up the coverage of vaccines in developing countries to 90 percent– including importantly the new vaccines for rotavirus and pneumococcal pneumonia – the lives of 7.6 million children could be saved over the next decade.

CHAI is planning to support national governments of high burden countries to accelerate the introduction and uptake of life-saving pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines. The first large countries to introduce these vaccines will present essential learning opportunities to inform introductions throughout the rest of the developing world. As such, CHAI anticipates that robust evaluation and operational research will be a critical component of its support in this area, working closely with partner organizations such as the World Health Organization and UNICEF. This evaluation and research will be pursued within the context of CHAI's greater organizational focus on implementing "evidence generating activities" to achieve greater health impact through its work.

We are seeking a talented, highly motivated, and flexible individual with deep knowledge and experience with health evaluation and operational research to design and drive CHAI's relevant analytical work on vaccines. More broadly, this individual will help to shape and guide CHAI's approach to evidence generation across its entire global portfolio. The Specialist will be based in the East Coast of the United States with significant travel. Experience living and working in the developing world and working on vaccine-specific research are pluses.

Responsibilities:

- Identify key operational research approaches that could help to transform vaccine-related policies and operations in targeted developing countries;
- Design evaluations and studies to robustly answer major policy and operational questions raised by national and global policymakers related to access to new vaccines;
- Support the effective execution of vaccine evaluation and research projects, including through quality control of data collection and interim analysis;

- Translate evaluation and research project results into appropriate concrete policy and operational recommendations;
- Collaborate with leading international researchers and partner organizers to identify additional opportunities for CHAI to contribute to high-impact evidence generation work on vaccines;
- Advise other teams and individuals within the organization, including those focused on HIV/AIDS treatment, malaria, and health systems, on effective approaches to generating evidence to answer key policy questions.

Qualifications:

- At least 5-10 years of professional experience
- An advanced degree in public health or another relevant discipline. PhD strongly preferred.
- Significant experience designing and managing major evaluations or operational research projects, with a particular emphasis on empirical studies in developing countries with direct relevance to major policy issues
- Experience and skill in designing and conducting analysis in resource-limited situations and adapting research to meet operational realities
- Exceptional problem solving skills and written and oral communication
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to build relationships in a challenging multicultural environment
- Ability to multi-task and to be effective in high-pressure situations
- Ability to absorb and synthesize a broad range of information
- High level of proficiency in relevant computer applications particularly Excel, Powerpoint and Word

Advantages:

- Fluency in or working knowledge of French
- Experience living and working in developing countries

Experience in working with vaccines and/or relevant diseases or systems

Options:

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