

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE:	Infectious Diseases Mentor
DIVISION / SECTION:	Global and Tropical Health Project Lead
SUPERVISOR:	Academic Level B
CLASSIFICATION LEVEL:	1.0 FTE
STATUS (FTE):	4
DIRECT REPORTS:	0
INDIRECT REPORTS:	
SPECIAL PROVISIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Vaccinated against COVID-19 and ability to provide suitable evidence to Human Resources.</li><li>- Willingness to comply with the Top End Health Services Staff Immunisation Policy and provide proof of compliance (e.g. through serology) including Hepatitis A &amp; B vaccinations.</li><li>- Ability to undertake frequent travel to referral hospitals in other municipalities.</li><li>- Willingness and ability to obtain a National Police Clearance.</li></ul>

### **ABOUT MENZIES:**

As one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses, Menzies School of Health Research continues to translate its research into effective partnerships and programs in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The Menzies Global and Tropical Health (GTH) Division is committed to dealing with key areas of public health concern that impact on the health and wellbeing of people and communities across northern Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. With a focus on translational research we shape our research program through close collaboration with a diverse range of healthcare providers, policy makers and researchers, to target priority health issues. Our aim is to find meaningful and relevant ways to improve the health of people in our region. Menzies has recently opened an office in Dili, Timor-Leste. Two main projects, STRONG TL and the Fleming Fund Country Grant for Timor-Leste are being conducted through the office under a Memorandum of Understanding between Menzies and the Ministry of Health, along with other smaller projects and partnerships.

The focus of the *Fleming Fund Country Grant for Timor-Leste* is strengthening the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial use (AMU) surveillance systems and antimicrobial consumption (AMC) data capture in both the human and animal health sectors. The project will facilitate a stronger 'One Health' approach to surveillance, bringing together multi-sectoral stakeholders to share surveillance data and gain a better understanding of AMR, AMU and AMC.

### **SUMMARY OF POSITION:**

The Infectious Diseases Mentor will provide mentorship and education in clinical settings including Hospital Nacional Guido Valadares (HNGV) and Baucau, Suai, Maubisse, Oecusse and Maliana municipality referral hospitals in Timor-Leste.

Teaching will focus on the recognition, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases, with specific focus on AMR, appropriate use of antibiotics and the introduction of a blood culture service into the referral hospitals. The Mentor will provide direct supervision for two infectious diseases / microbiology liaison doctors, as well as teaching and training for medical officers from the Ministry of Health.

The Mentor should contribute to stronger relationships between clinical and laboratory services, and encourage the use of diagnostic microbiology tests to guide decision-making in antimicrobial prescribing. In addition to teaching and mentoring, the role will contribute to operational and health systems research activities in Timor-Leste.

This position will be based in Dili, Timor Leste and will involve frequent travel to referral hospitals in other municipalities.

### **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Provide mentoring and teaching for doctors working at HNGV, Baucau Hospital, Suai Hospital, Maubisse Hospital, Oecusse Hospital and Maliana Hospital, focused on infectious diseases, with specific attention to AMR, AMU and the introduction of a blood culture service to the referral hospitals.
2. Supervise infectious diseases / microbiology liaison doctors employed by Menzies, and mentor them in their roles
3. Strengthen relationships and coordination between clinical departments, laboratory departments and the surveillance department of the Ministry of Health, particularly with regards to utilisation of diagnostic microbiology services and notification of notifiable diseases.
4. Contribute to the development and implementation of antibiotic guidelines and antimicrobial stewardship policy.
5. Contribute to relevant, approved Menzies research projects, focused on AMR, AMU, and other infectious diseases.
6. Assist the Project Leads with reporting requirements for funders, collaborators, and internal Menzies purposes
7. Any other tasks as reasonably required by the supervisor, project leads or country manager
8. Demonstrate an understanding and awareness of relevant workplace health and safety as well as Equal Opportunity principles and legislation along with a commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe workplace for all Menzies staff, students, volunteers and visitors.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

#### **Essential:**

1. Registered Medical Practitioner with specialist qualifications in Infectious Diseases or other evidence of postgraduate training in Infectious Diseases with current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
2. At least five years' experience in roles that have included clinical education and mentoring. Demonstrated ability to supervise and provide education to other medical staff in a number of different areas, such as hospital, Laboratory or Clinical settings.

3. Thorough understanding of the issues that affect health in low-resource settings, and the factors that influence antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial use specifically.
4. Demonstrated understanding of the contribution of diagnostic microbiology services to clinical management of infectious diseases. ability to communicate and interact effectively with people from diverse cultures and educational backgrounds.
5. Ability to take initiative, make sound judgements with strong problem-solving skills
6. Demonstrated capacity to work independently without direct supervision, under broad direction and as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
7. Prior experience/ exposure working with culturally diverse teams.
8. Proven time management skills with ability to meet project deadlines

**Desirable:**

1. Verbal or written knowledge of Tetum, Bahasa Indonesia, Spanish or Portuguese language is an advantage.
2. Experience working in health systems strengthening and capacity development in low-resource settings.

**COVID-19 Safety Requirements:**

1. Menzies encourages all staff to be fully vaccinated in accordance with the latest guidance and recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination as issued by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).
2. Menzies requires all staff to implement, as directed, risk control strategies that provide them with protection from COVID-19 in the workplace such good hygiene practices, mask wearing, physical distancing and any other reasonable direction.

As a recognised national leader in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, education and research training, Menzies is committed to providing a culturally inclusive and supportive work environment, and ensuring our workforce is representative of the people with and for whom we work. We seek to amplify First Nations voices in all aspects of our work, and we strongly encourage Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples to apply for this position.

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Approved by: Menzies Human Resources

Date: 20/09/2022