MMV is seeking a Regional P.vivax radical cure advisor

Introduction and context

MMV is a leading, not-for-profit product development partnership (PDP) in the field of antimalarial drug research and development. It was formed in 1999 to re-ignite stalled Research & Development into new drugs for malaria. Its mission is to reduce the burden of malaria in disease-endemic countries by discovering, developing and facilitating the delivery of new, effective and affordable antimalarial drugs.

In the past 20 years, MMV has brought forward 11 new and improved medicines for malaria in collaboration with its many partners and has taken on the access stewardship of an additional two. Since 2006, our Access and Product Management (APM) team has been working to improve access to these vital drugs. In 2018, the first new radical cure for P.vivax malaria in over 60 years was approved by both the US FDA and Australian TGA. We are currently working to ensure this improved treatment reaches those who most need it and are working on a couple of initiatives - VivAccess and VivAction.

MMV is looking for a consultant Regional P. vivax radical cure Advisor in Ethiopia, **100% on a fixed term basis, 2020 to 2024.** He/she will support the MMV Director of Access who is the project lead on tafenoquine (TQ) in Geneva.

Location: Addis Ababa

The Regional P.vivax radical cure Advisor will work in close collaboration with the National Malaria Elimination and Control Programme (NMECP), our partners , as well as national and regional stakeholders.

Main responsibilities

Provide scientific, technical, and operational support for the feasibility study

- Support the NMECP, our partners and stakeholders in building the evidence needed for the MOH policy adoption of G6PD test and appropriate radical cure.
- Support a planned feasibility study to introduce G6PD testing before P. vivax radical cure.
- Participate in discussions and engagement with key stakeholders, including local health authorities.
- Finalize the protocol including site selection.
- Adapt existing training materials, surveillance etc. for local use.
- Support training of health care workers.
- Monitor study implementation.
- Provide operational support as required (e.g. on budgets, quantification etc.).
- Be a member of the study steering committee and the study oversight committee.
- Provide progress updates on the feasibility studies to the key stakeholders.
- Share lessons learned between different study sites and stakeholders.

Provide scientific / technical guidance

- Provide ad-hoc support when needed, e.g. discussions with National Regulatory Authorities, meeting with the NMECP etc.
- Support the scientific community in the region on relevant research projects that support evidence for the adoption of new tools for malaria control.

Engagement in and oversight of in-country activities

• Support MMV and partners, as required, in the implementation of the grants.
• Contribute to the development of a roadmap for policy adoption, resource mobilization, and an appropriate supply chain to ensure co-availability of radical cure products at health facilities treating malaria.
• Support the development of sustainability plans for ongoing funding of P. vivax commodities.
• Coordinate with other institutional partners operating in the WHO-AFRO region to integrate P. vivax tools that are relevant for malaria elimination goals.
• Monitor progress and timely completion of key deliverables of country plan.
• Support the development of advocacy materials.

Knowledge sharing

• Proactively share information across countries in the region and globally.
• Develop and maintain a knowledge sharing hub.

Regional representation

• Represent MMV at national and regional meetings.
• Liaise with country implementing partners and the procurement agent(s) on quantification issues, and with key regional stakeholders such as AFRO, PMI, etc..

Reporting

• Submit regular progress reports
• Support the global support and country project teams (finance, external relations and access) in developing bi-annual reports to the donor, including progress against targets.

Education & experience

• Medical doctor or master's level qualification in public health.
• 5-7 years of relevant experience in public health.
• Demonstrated experience making significant contributions to clinical studies or operations research design and implementation.
• Proven experience working in or with disease control programmes, building relationships with high-level government stakeholders within ministries of health.
• Experience working on health commodity procurement and supply chain management in Ethiopia. • Knowledge of pharmacovigilance practices.
• Direct experience working in field research, specific experience with malaria is a plus

Technical skills required

• Verbal and written fluency in English and Amharic is essential.
• Strong report-writing skills, particularly with regards to donor reporting requirements.
• Experience conducting or organizing trainings.
• Excellent organizational and project management skills.

- Familiarity with global health issues.
- Excellent analytical skills.

Behavioral skills required

- Excellent written and oral communications skills.
- Ability to engage effectively with high-level government stakeholders.
- Ability to multi-task, set priorities, and work independently.
- Strong interpersonal and collaboration skills.
- Cultural sensitivity and awareness.
- Willingness to travel frequently (upto 25% of time) in the country, region and internationally.

Deadline

- The proposal deadline is 9 November 2020.
- Please email your application to, Angela Sturgess, Medicines for Malaria Venture, recruitment@mmv.org