Lab Technician

Organization:
The Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) an international non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland was established in India as an independent non-profit created under Section 8 (Indian) Companies Act, 2013 with its office in New Delhi. FIND India is a key implementing partner of the Central Tuberculosis Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, for strengthening and expanding tuberculosis (TB) laboratory diagnostic capacity within the Revised National TB Control Program (RNTCP) supported by the Global Fund. FIND is dedicated to activities that result in: 1) new diagnostic tools; 2) expanded access to these tools; and 3) strengthened diagnostic testing capacity for poverty-related diseases in low-and middle-income countries. FIND in India has several projects in the area of TB, Hepatitis C (HCV), Malaria, Fever and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

TB remains a life-threatening disease partly due to increasing incidence of multidrug and extensively drug-resistant TB. Diagnosis based on culture and conventional drug susceptibility testing using media take several weeks leading to prolonged periods of ineffective therapy and ongoing transmission. Development of rapid molecular diagnostic tests for the identification of Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB) and drug resistance has become a high priority.

Several novel assays have been recently developed/CE-marked offering high sample throughput and higher sensitivity for detection of MTB, RIF- and INH-resistance in centralized laboratories. However, published data on their performance and operational characteristics is extremely limited. The cobas® MTB for use on the cobas® 6800/8800 Systems is an automated, qualitative in vitro diagnostic test, that utilizes real-time polymerase chain reaction. The cobas MTB-RIF/INH test is intended to be used as a reflex test for samples tested as positive for Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex by the cobas MTB test. This test is an automated, qualitative real-time PCR test designed to detect rifampicin and isoniazid resistance. FIND is conducting a multicenter study to assess the performance of centralized assay solutions for detection of MTB and resistance to Rifampin and Isoniazid in India.

For more information about the organization, please visit http://www.finddx.org/

Location: Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Job responsibilities:
- Perform TB diagnostic tests including, but not limited to: GeneXpert, Line probe assay (LPA), liquid culture (LC), drug susceptibility testing (DST), cobas MTB and cobas MTB-RIF/INH assays on specimens collected from study participants following standard operating procedures (SOPs) & Good Laboratory Practices (GLP)
- Data collection from various tests performed in the lab, data entry, regular data backup and quality checks
Support the Junior Research fellow and site project manager at RMRC for all laboratory operations as per project needs, including preparation of periodic project reports in the prescribed formats

- Collaborate effectively with project team, participate in trainings, and meetings
- Undertake other responsibilities assigned by site project manager and the FIND technical team, as per project needs

**Education and skill requirements/Desired experience:**

- B Sc. with a specialization in Microbiology with/ without Medical Lab Technology, or higher qualification
  Or
- Candidates holding diploma in Medical Lab Technology is considered only if it is done after 12th Standard.
- At least 2 years of work experience in TB Culture and DST lab
  Or
- Rapid molecular TB diagnostics (GeneXpert and LPA).
- Experience in research studies, Good Clinical and Laboratory Practices will be an asset.
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Strong team orientation
- Ability to work independently with minimum handholding and supervision
- Energetic, resilient and passionate
- Professional, mature and confident.

**Nature of appointment:**
The selected candidate shall be based in Bhubaneswar and will be a Project Linked consultancy contract until **30 April 2021**.

**Compensation offered:**
The gross remuneration budgeted for the position shall be commensurate with the qualifications, experience and salary history, of the selected candidate.

**Deadline to send your application:**
Please mail a motivation letter, a detailed resume and three references to **HR-IN@finddx.org** by **15 March 2020**

*But don’t wait until the deadline! We will start screening right away and if we find the right person, we will stop searching.*

Please note that only applicants meeting the profile requirements will be personally contacted. Applications sent by recruitment agencies will not be considered.