Junior Research Fellow

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 (TB) Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, for strengthening and expanding 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:
- Manage all clinical and laboratory aspects of the study and ensure collection, recording and reporting of clean and quality data by performing quality control activities
- Develop and maintain the investigator site file
- Ensure compliance with the study protocol and procedures included in the study manual
- Report protocol deviations, incidents and serious adverse events as per study protocol
- Supervise and mentor LTs and field worker
- Support the Principle Investigator at the site at RMRC on study-related activities including but not limited to data analysis, preparation of periodic project reports, presentations in the prescribed formats
- Collaborate effectively with project team, participate in trainings, and meetings
- Liaise and facilitate the communication between FIND and RMRC
- Undertake other responsibilities assigned by site project manager and the FIND technical team, as per project needs
Education qualifications and skill requirements/Desired experience:
- PhD Degree in Microbiology, biotechnology, molecular or applied biology with one-year experience
  Or
  Master’s degree in science with a specialization in Microbiology/ Biotechnology/ Medical Lab Technology, or higher qualification with at least 3 years of experience
- Experience and track record of planning and conducting clinical studies
- Applicants with work experience in TB Culture and DST lab and/or rapid molecular TB diagnostics (GeneXpert and LPA) shall be given preference
- Strong computer skills, good presentation skills, attention to detail, superior problem-solving skills
- Good oral and written communication skills in English and local language
- 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 10 October 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.