

Modeller Networks for Optimized Diagnosis to END-TB (NODE)

Organization:

Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) is established in India as an independent non-profit created under Section 8 (Indian) Companies Act, 2013 with its office in New Delhi. The organization 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. FIND India has several projects in TB, Hepatitis C (HCV), COVID-19, Malaria, Fevers and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

Background:

FIND India is supporting the NTEP lab network through continued sustenance of service delivery and expansion of NTEP's diagnostic capacity for Drug Resistant-TB through development of 20 new C-DST labs, operationalisation of genome sequencing equipment and scaling up of the LIMS to all C-DST labs.

One of the strategic pillars in the NTEP's national strategic plan (NSP) is "Detect" which focuses on creating a comprehensive, high-quality TB diagnostic network to accurately and rapidly diagnose TB and link the patients with appropriate and timely treatment. The patient pathway analysis has highlighted the frequent disconnect between the availability and placement of diagnostic services and patient care seeking behaviour. Network design that is better aligned with patient health seeking behaviour is expected to help alleviate barriers to care and will assist governments and donors to improve the efficiency of investments and service delivery.

Under the project FIND India will work to scale up the diagnostic network optimization exercise to cover 10 large states across the country which contribute to majority of the testing volumes. These include Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Odisha, Telangana, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh.

The key activities and outputs under the project will include:

1. Coordinating collection of data from the identified districts in the State related to location of the Cartridge Based Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (CBNAAT), TrueNat, their current capacity and utilisation, patient flow and status of sample referral systems.
2. Optimizing placement of existing CBNAAT and TrueNat devices in the public sector testing sites.
3. Estimate future demand for testing as upfront CBNAAT/NAAT is expanded to all newly diagnosed TB patients.
4. Map the location and capacity of TB diagnostic testing services in selected private sector labs and propose engagement models and referral patterns to optimize overall network efficiency and increase patient access to diagnosis.
5. Recommend the optimal sample referral network design from health facility to molecular testing site, plus on-referral for Culture (C)/Drug Susceptibility Testing (DST)/Linear Probe Assay (LPA) using multi-stop estimation method.

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

Posted:14 April 2021

Location: New Delhi

Job description:

The Modeller will work with the with FIND's implementation team and identified partners to implement diagnostics network optimization projects aimed at increasing access to diagnostic services in in the 10 identified states of India, and to inform new diagnostics development and roll-out strategies. The Modeller will be expected to use analytical and quantitative methods to understand, predict and enhance processes to optimize access to health diagnostic services and communicate their outputs using data visualization and detailed reports.

The specific activities will include but not be limited to:

Get trained and become proficient in the software and protocols used in modeling optimized diagnostic networks. The Modeller will be required to learn, become proficient and independently utilize commercial supply chain software and the open access OptiDx tool, developed by FIND and partners, for building and analyzing country models for diagnostic network strengthening. The team currently uses LLamasoft's supply chain software.

- Support use of the OptiDx tool to optimize diagnostic networks by national disease programs and implementing partners.
- Work with national disease programs and partners to define and identify relevant national data sources to support the objectives of diagnostic network optimization projects.
- Collect, compile, and interpret national data relevant to the diagnostic network optimization project objectives (demand patterns, costs, productivity, etc.).
- Assess available data, identify data gaps and limitations, and proactively suggest and implement approaches to clean and integrate data. Suggest assumptions to fill identified data gaps along with justification for them.
- Identify, analyse, and interpret trends or patterns from the national data and share reports with relevant project stakeholders.
- Provide applied analytics support for decision making, including scenario modelling, cost-benefit analyses, and any other quantitative support required.
- Use data visualization tools to enhance Access team visibility on existing and optimized diagnostic networks.
- Contribute to the enhancement of the parameters of the open access OptiDx diagnostic network optimization.
- Write and support the writing of publications and scientific presentations (incl. travel for presentations).
- Regularly update supervisor and other team members on the progress and difficulties experienced.

Experience and qualifications required:

FIND is looking for a highly motivated individual with outstanding qualitative and quantitative analytical abilities, and communication skills.

- Bachelor's degree in supply chain management; biostatistics, public health with a strong data element, computer science, information management, data science and analytics, or related data-intensive field
- Minimum of 3 years relevant work experience in supply chain management, data management and/or data analytics. Experience with supply chain design software is highly desirable.
- Advanced problem solving, analytical, and quantitative skills, including significant experience working with Excel. Ability to select the right tool for analyses e.g. quick

Posted:14 April 2021

analyses using MS Excel, or more detailed analyses using statistical software such as R, SAS, STATA, or Python

- Ability to present insights in easily understood data visualizations using software such as Tableau, Qlikview, or PowerBI
- Previous experience analyzing national health systems data in low- and middle- income countries (LMICs) is an added advantage
- Ability to work without close supervision as well as to work under pressure and meet tight timelines on a result-oriented basis
- Willingness to expand knowledge base and take on new topics
- Work well in teams of multi-cultural backgrounds, effective communication
- Superior problem-solving skills and detail oriented
- Represent the FIND strategy and goal of being an honest, transparent broker in the global health field
- Interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills. Team oriented
- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Available for at least 30% travel
-

Desirable skills/experience:

- Experience with database technologies such as SQL Server or MS Access would be an added advantage.
- Ability to independently learn the use of various data management software would be an added advantage.

Nature of appointment:

The selected candidate shall be offered a Fixed Term Employment contract for 10 months

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: 15 May 2021

Please mail a motivation letter, a detailed resume and three references to HR-IN@finddx.org.

(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.