

Senior Microbiologist

Organization:

The Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) is an international non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland, 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 India is a subsidiary of FIND, Geneva.

FIND is established in India as an independent non-profit Foundation created under Section 8 (Indian) Companies Act, 2013, with its offices in New Delhi. FIND India is the key implementing partner of Central TB Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India for strengthening and expanding TB laboratory diagnostic capacity within the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) supported by the Global Fund.

FIND in collaboration with National Tuberculosis Institute (NTI), Bangalore is supporting the National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) to scale up CBNAAT External Quality Assessment (Proficiency Testing) in a phased manner across the country through funding support from CDC. With technical support of CDC Atlanta, NTI and FIND have developed in-country capacity to manufacture proficiency testing (PT) panels for CBNAAT EQA at International Center for Excellence in Laboratory Training (ICELT) at NTI. Four rounds of CBNAAT EQA have been completed pan nation which covered all CBNAAT testing sites (1238 public sector labs) across the country. Further, the NTEP is in the process of scaling up TrueNat™ POC testing aiming to establish >6000 sites over next 3-4 years. It will be critical to implement EQA (Proficiency testing) for TrueNat™ as well to ensure quality of services. The capacity at NTI will be enhanced to scale up manufacture of panels for CBNAAT and TrueNat™.

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

Location: Bangalore

Job Description/ Responsibilities:

The **Microbiologist (MB)** shall report administratively to the Director National Tuberculosis of India (NTI) functionally be under the direct supervision of the Head of lab in charge (ICELT) & Project Leader / Medical Officer and Head of **FIND India**

Key Responsibilities:

1. EQA for CBNAAT & TrueNat - Lead the implementation of EQA activities within FIND in close coordination with NTI. This includes for
 - a. Manufacturing of Panels
 - b. Ensuring all SOPs, documents etc. of PT provider are available and updated on regular basis
 - c. Coordinate for procurement of various consumables required for implementing EQA
 - d. Coordinate with NRLs, IRLs, states and sites for implementation including orientation, monitoring, or PT round, for post EQA visits, assessments as required, etc.

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- e. Support NTI in data analysis, reporting and monitoring EQA round implementation
2. Contribute to developing trainings and implementation package for Truenat
3. Mentor identified TB C&DST labs for achieving NTEP certification for different testing technologies
4. Contribute actively towards improvising existing training materials and developing new AV material on lab related trainings including on equipment handling and maintenance, LIMS & Truenat, etc.
5. Contribute as a national level facilitator for various lab related trainings as required
6. Support for technical evaluation of laboratory products such as new equipment's, PPE, etc.
7. Manage ICELT activities including lab management and mentoring and monitoring of the staff assigned. This includes developing and keeping a track of project management calendar for various activities carried out through ICELT
8. Regularly updating on ICELT activities and seeking inputs from supervisor and senior management for required support/intervention.
9. Liaising and facilitating with the FIND India technical team on all technical matters relating to laboratory functioning
10. Undertaking any other job assigned by FIND India technical team, as per project needs.

Qualifications and Experience: (Essential):

- Applicants must meet the following qualification requirements:
 - 1) MD Or Ph.D. in Microbiology/MSc with specialization in Medical Microbiology, Applied Microbiology, with minimum one year of experience in NTEP TB diagnostics and Experience of molecular TB diagnostics of EQA for NAAT testing and sequencing of Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- Preferential Qualification: One year of relevant work experience in TB laboratory diagnosis with National Tuberculosis Program (NTEP) and Mentor experience for NTEP TB diagnostics laboratory trainings, experience in NTEP Quality Assurance Scheme (EQAS)

Skills and Attitude:

- (1) Good oral and written communication skills
- (2) Strong team orientation
- (3) Ability to work independently, with minimum handholding and supervision
- (4) Energetic, resilient, and passionate
- (5) Professional, mature, and confident.

Nature of Appointment:

The selected candidate shall be offered Fixed Term Employment contract up to **31st March 2024**. The position will be prolonged subject to satisfactory performance, project extension and fund availability.

Compensation offered:

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

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Deadline to send your application: 27 May 2022

Please mail a motivation letter, a detailed resume and three references to HR-IN@finddx.org. We will start screening right away and if we find the right person, we will stop searching. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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