



HEAL Initiative Fellow Role Description

Position Title: General Surgery HEAL Fellow

Organization: [Jan Swasthya Sahyog \(JSS\), India](#)

Jan Swasthya Sahyog (JSS) is a voluntary, non-profit, registered society of health professionals running a low-cost, effective, health program providing both preventive and curative services for the past 15 years to people from the tribal and rural areas of Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh through a community health program and a rural health centre, which includes a hospital. The team at Jan Swasthya Sahyog includes specialists in Medicine, Paediatrics, Public health, Gynaecology, Surgery, ENT, Ayurvedic Medicine and Microbiology. Many members of the team were trained at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

Department: General Surgery

There are two major operating rooms at JSS: one obstetric OT and a minor OT. The staffing of the General Surgery Department includes one full time Senior General and Pediatric Surgeon, one full time senior Gynecologist and Obstetrician, a part time Anesthetist, and a regular (weekly) visiting Surgical oncologist. In addition, there are visiting faculty in Pediatric surgery, Orthopaedics, and Neurosurgery with variable frequency. There are also three operating room technicians, one obstetric OT technician and one Anesthesia assistant. Senior Residents visit for an average one month intermittently (on an average two to three in a year). Junior Residents in Family Medicine rotate through surgery for a period of 4 months during their 3-year residency. Nursing staff also assist in the operating rooms and in postoperative care.

Position Description: HEAL fellows will dedicate about 50% of their clinical time to inpatient work and 50% to outpatient as well as providing urgent care call. Solid malignancies form a significant part of surgical work, and in the absence of a medical oncologist, treatment planning and chemotherapy also have to be done by the surgical team. Fellows will help to manage surgical and obstetric emergencies. In addition to clinical time, fellows will provide didactic teaching of FM residents, work on health system improvement projects, engage in research and advocacy writing, coordinate telemedicine conferences, and coordinate medical volunteers from USA.

Fellows will be expected to build and improve clinical training curriculum and mentorship structures for primary care providers (including Family Medicine Residents) and improve QI processes in the OT and in Postoperative care. Fellows will also lead the application process for a Postgraduate Residency program in General Surgery.

Job Requirements: By 1 July 2018 applicants must have completed residency training at a US-based residency program. Some things to keep in mind: (1) JSS is a busy place: many patients, many staff, many visitors, many conferences and this can feel chaotic. Come prepared to be overwhelmed. Your senior rotating and site HEAL fellows will be invaluable resource. (2) Everyone is engaged in the work and constantly thinking about how it can be improved. One



has to approach with humility and be ready to keep trying because change is difficult. (3) Be prepared to feel pushed out of comfort zone re: scope of practice. (4) Interest in medical education and advocacy writing will be very useful.

HEAL Initiative

The HEAL Initiative aims to train and support health providers to thrive in hard places by fostering a community of front line health professionals dedicated to serving the underserved. HEAL is an immersive two-year fellowship dedicated to health equity and catalyzing life experience serving underserved.