

HEAL Initiative Fellow Role Description

Position Title: Obstetrics and Gynaecology HEAL Fellow

Organization: Mbale is the site of one of Uganda's 14 regional referral hospitals and a hub for medical training in the country via Busitema University. Mbale is located in eastern Uganda at the edge of Mount Elgon National Park (approximately 120 miles from the capital, Kampala). Mbale is home to two hospitals (Mbale Regional Referral Hospital and CURE Children's Hospital of Uganda). Mbale Regional Referral Hospital is a 440-bed hospital that serves 14 districts and a population of more than 4 million people in the east of Uganda. It is the busiest of Uganda's regional referral hospitals with almost 10,000 maternal deliveries and 55,000 in-patient admissions each year. The hospital performs nearly 5000 surgical procedures per year including >2000 cesarean sections, >300 laparotomies, 150 hernias, 100 ORIFs, 80 hysterectomies and more.

Department: Mbale Regional Referral Hospital and Busitema University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has 7 Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 2 Medical Officers, 8 Junior House Officers (Intern Doctors), and 30 Midwives and Nurses. The other staff in the hospital include 3 physician anesthesiologists and 8 non-physician anesthesia providers, as well as 6 practicing surgeons (2 orthopedics, 1 OHNS, and 2 general surgeons). It has 4 operating rooms, with one dedicated to emergency obstetric care. A new high dependency unit has been set up in the surgical and postnatal wards of the hospital.

Description: The position is a mix of clinical work, teaching and research in obstetrics and gynaecology. Apart from the medical students from Busitema University Faculty of Health Sciences, the fellow will interact with students from the various medical training institutions that use Mbale Hospital as their clinical practicum site. Fellows will have at least 1 day per week protected from clinical duty to participate in project work that aligns with departmental priorities. This may include quality improvement research and community outreach among other potential projects. Spectrum of care may be tailored to fellow interest and based on departmental priorities. Fellows will be asked to help develop or deliver structured curriculum to trainees.

Clinical Work

- **Clinical hours per week:** 20 hours without the calls
- **Length of shifts (in hours):** 24 hours
- **Any 24-hour shifts?** Yes, but you are available on call to trouble shoot as the specialist on duty
- **Is there back-up for overnight call?** yes
- **# of weekends per month?** Zero
- **What is typical clinical schedule on a given week?**
 - **Monday:** Major ward round on Gyn ward

- **Tuesday:** Theatre day
 - **Wednesday:** High risk pregnancy clinic
 - **Thursday:** FP clinic
 - **Friday:** Gyn clinic
 - **Saturday:** NA
 - **Sunday:** NA
- **Administrative hours per week:** None

Project Work

- **Is there an expectation to participate in projects, committees, or other activities outside clinical duties?** Yes, departmental meeting , Maternal and Perinatal Death Review Meetings (MPDSR), CPD
- **Is there protected time for those activities in the schedule?** Yes, but very often they are adhoc

Additional Details

- **Who does the fellow go to with clinical and/or administrative questions?** Local Partner
- **Is there any formal or informal mentorship for new clinicians at this site?** Yes, ongoing
- **How are schedules made? Is there flexibility for shift or schedule requests?** Yes, it is always collaborative and flexible

Job Requirements: By 1 July 2024 applicants must have completed residency training at a US based residency program. Applicants must be able to provide highly competent clinical care, be adaptable, and have a clear passion for serving the underserved. Also important is the ability to function with limited specialty consultation and to have a genuine compassionate nature to serve a disenfranchised population. Fellows must be eligible for a Ugandan medical license.

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 the underserved.