

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

SECTION A: Position context

Position title	Senior Women's and Children's Health Specialist
Employment type	Full-time for 2 years
Centre	Centre for International Health
Location	Melbourne, with international travel as required
Effective date	July 2015

Burnet overview

The Burnet Institute is an Australian not-for-profit, unaligned and independent organisation whose purpose is to achieve better health for poor and vulnerable communities in Australia and internationally through research, education and public health. Burnet's unique approach of linking medical research with public health action allows us to respond with comprehensive and innovative solutions ranging from novel discoveries, such as the development of new vaccines and diagnostic tests, to the better deployment of existing best-practice health interventions.

The medical research programs conducted in our Australian laboratories encompass three areas: infectious diseases – hepatitis, HIV, influenza, malaria and tuberculosis; cancers – breast, ovarian, prostate and blood cancers; and autoimmune diseases – rheumatoid arthritis and lupus.

We undertake innovative epidemiological research, including surveillance and modelling complemented by participatory social research. We work at international and regional levels, and with governments, civil society and communities in more than 15 countries. We build capacity and strengthen health services to reduce the impact of major health problems. Some of these include: reducing the impact and spread of HIV, promoting sexual and reproductive health, and improving the health of children, youth, parents and older people.

Burnet has three Centres – Biomedical Research, Population Health and International Health. These Centres represent our key areas of research and public health. The Corporate and Support Services Group provides professional support and advice to these Centres.

The **Centre for International Health (CIH)** leads Burnet's work to improve health in low-income countries. We promote positive health outcomes through implementing or managing programs with community partners, conducting research that informs and strengthens health programs and services, advocating for improved health policies and

assisting in their development, providing education for post-graduate public health and development specialists who work in low-income countries, and building the capacity of health and development agencies and workers.

Our public health efforts tackle the most critical health problems of resource poor and vulnerable communities, guided by the Millennium Development Goals and our commitment to equity. We are currently involved in:

- HIV and STI prevention, treatment, and care
- Women's and children's health
- Adolescent Health
- Health systems strengthening and primary health care, including communicable disease control
- Reducing the harms associated with drug and alcohol use
- Healthy ageing

Position summary:

The Senior Women's and Children's Health Specialist will be part of the CIH Women's and Children's Health Team and join a dynamic and experienced group of public health researchers and practitioners. The Senior Women's and Children's Health Specialist will play a leading role in the Institute's international public health research, international development, business development and postgraduate education activities with a focus on women's and children's health, and/or sexual and reproductive health in low- and middle-income countries.

Supervision and reporting relationships:

The Senior Women's and Children's Health Specialist will report directly to the Head of Women's and Children's Health (Associate Professor Stanley Luchters).

SECTION B: Key roles and responsibilities

The key role of the Senior Women's and Children's Health Specialist will be to:

- Build and maintain a research and development portfolio consistent with the Centre's thematic priorities;
- Expand on the number of collaborative research activities with other Centres in the Institute.
- Contribute to capacity development of the WCH team and the Centre's workforce in research and technical knowledge and skills.
- Develop new collaborative partnerships with Australian and overseas institutions (and sustain existing relationships) that enable a greater volume of Burnet/CIH global health activities.
- Lead and contribute to the writing of scientific papers for publication in peer-reviewed journals and other technical reports
- In consultation with the Head WCH, represent the Institute in relevant forums in Australia and overseas
- Contributing to CIH's postgraduate teaching program as appropriate. Supervise PhD candidates or equivalent to completion.

SECTION C: Key selection criteria

Qualifications	
1.	Postgraduate qualifications in public health (preferably international public health), epidemiology, international development or related area. Possession of a PhD is essential.

Experience / skills / attributes	
1.	Significant demonstrated experience and knowledge of International Health and particularly women's and children's health, and/or sexual and reproductive health
2.	Demonstrated ability to set priorities, undertake multiple tasks and work in a flexible, productive and pro-active manner in a busy environment, individually and as an effective team member
3.	Negotiation and liaison skills evidenced by examples of positive outcomes
4.	Strong communication and interpersonal skills, including a demonstrated ability to engage at a senior government level, establish and maintain networks, and communicate effectively on sensitive issues with a culturally and professionally diverse range of stakeholders
5.	Relative to opportunity, the applicant has a record of research achievement quality and productivity and/or translation into practice that is outstanding by international standards commensurate with their field of research
6.	Demonstrated ability and track record in proposal writing and attracting competitive peer review donor funding, including from major international and/or national grants
7.	Demonstrated experience in independently conceptualising, designing, conducting and analysing quantitative and/or qualitative research in an international development setting following high quality standards
8.	Ability to provide effective, high quality policy and technical inputs to research/program design, management, and quality processes
9.	Demonstrated experience in teaching and supervising postgraduate students (honours and masters, and PhD level desirable)

Other requirements

The Burnet Institute is a child safe organisation. The incumbent of this position will be required to sign the Institute's Child Protection Policy and may be required to undergo a National Police Check and Working with Children Check as a condition of employment.