Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

SECTION A: Position Context

Position Title	TB Public Health Nurse
Working Group	TB Elimination and Implementation Science
Classification	Salary will be discussed with shortlisted candidates. Airfares, accommodation, visa, medical & travel insurance, mobilisation/demobilisation allowance & other allowances provided.
Location	Daru, Western Province, Papua New Guinea (Travel within PNG and to Melbourne as required)
Effective Date	June 2019

Purpose:

The TB Public Health Nurse will work with the RID-TB team to implement an effective model of care for the management of DS-TB and DR- TB at the community level in Western Province. The position will be responsible for capacity building of community-based nursing and program staff to deliver high quality patient-centered care for DS-TB and DR-TB. This includes both treatment for TB disease and TB infection. This position is strongly focused on contributing to the design, implementation and monitoring of a services delivery model to scale up contact tracing and TB preventive treatment, integrating management and patient education and counselling (PEC) teams for the provision of high-quality case management, patient education and counselling (PEC) and patient support to stay engaged in care and achieve positive treatment outcomes.

The position will work closely with facility and community-based staff and partners and will collaborate closely with the TB Specialist: Public Health in the Burnet team in Daru and Australia.

Supervision Reporting Relationships:

This positions' supervisor/manager	Medical Director (Senior TB Specialist) Receive technical direction and support from the team leader and TB specialists
Other positions reporting to this position	Nil

SECTION B: Key Responsibility Areas

The key responsibility areas (KRAs) are the major outputs for which the position is responsible and are not a comprehensive statement of the position activities.

	Key Responsibility Areas	
1.	**Clinical mentoring**	• Day-to-day clinical mentoring of community-based nurses, CHWs and treatment supporters that are providing treatment for TB disease and TB infection in Daru DART sites. • Work with the TB Specialists in the Burnet Team in Daru to identify training needs of community-based nurses, CHWs and community treatment supporters, and provide structured training on topics agreed upon. • Liaise with the Burnet and World Vision teams to design interventions to improve quality of care and service delivery models aiming to have treatment outcomes for TB infection and disease reaching 90%.

2.	**Implementation support to health systems strengthening**	• Provide support and capacity-building to community-based nurses, CHWs and treatment supporters for the implementation of a community-based TB care delivery as designed by the Burnet team. • Support the implementation and scale up of active-case finding and contact tracing activities (including performing and supporting Tuberculin Skin Testing) in line with current operational research protocols. Support and strengthen existing activities within contact tracing activities, including referrals (& follows ups) to Daru General Hospital. • Support community nurses, CHWs and treatment supporters for quality improvement and optimal utilization of SOPs, tools, checklists and job aides for community TB care, case management, patient monitoring, follow-up, retention and PEC. • Support the preventative therapy program in all aspects of implementation including clinic reviews, clinic management, follow ups and the introduction of new treatments. Support the PH Specialist and staff in ensuring appropriate patient selection for the program. • Adapt, develop and (re) design additional tools as required. • As part of outreach team, and when need arises, travel to outreach locations as needed, with a focus on diagnosing program gaps and strengthening the delivery of TB services, and improving the standard of nursing and primary health care delivery.
3.	**Implementation support to TB M&E and research activities**	• Conduct audits, field assessments and reports on areas identified by the technical team. • Support of development and adequate use of M&E tools to collect data on key areas of implementation. • Support and participate in operational research as needed. • Contribute to data systems entry (primarily for the public health program though for other areas as required) in data cleaning
4	**Other tasks**	• Manage and support a small team of Burnet staff dedicated to the upscale of active case finding and preventative therapy. Currently this includes a research nurse and health promotor. • Establish and maintain effective working relationships with donors, implementing agencies and other stakeholders. • Liaise directly with relevant program staff, in both PNG and Melbourne. • Contribute to the completion of project reporting. • Liaise with the rest of the Burnet nursing team to ensure adequate nursing coverage across all Burnet inputs in Western Province
5	**Occupational Health & Safety**	• Refer to the "Burnet OHS responsibilities and roles" document for full details on specific OHS obligations and responsibilities of Employees.
6	**Training**	• Responsible for completing all required training in line with the position / role.

Occupational Health and Safety

The Burnet has a commitment to providing a safe and healthy workplace in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004. All staff are obliged to take all reasonable care to ensure that their actions do not place themselves or others at risk.

SECTION C: Key Selection Criteria

Qualifications		Essential/ Desirable
	A qualified and registered nurse, midwife or equivalent allied health professional with over 5 years of clinical experience	Essential
	Registered or registrable with the PNG Nursing Council	Essential
	An additional qualification in education, counselling, tropical medicine, international development, public health or global health	Desirable

Experience / Knowledge / Attributes		
1.	Proven knowledge and experience in team management, capacity development / training of staff (preferably in a resource-constrained setting)	Essential
2.	Strong knowledge/skills in TB, community-based care and training / capacity building	Essential
3.	Experience in protocol or guideline design, report writing or publications	Essential
4.	Highly adaptable, ability to work in a challenging environment	Essential
5.	Demonstrated analytical, critical appraisal and problem solving skills	Essential
6.	Experience and competency in the use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel	Essential
7.	Fluency in English and demonstrated high level communication and interpersonal skills	Essential
8.	Field experience in the clinical and programmatic management of TB/DR-TB in a resource-constrained setting	Desirable
9.	Previous work experience in PNG or the Pacific	Desirable

Other Requirements

The Burnet Institute is a child safe organisation. The incumbent of this position may be required to undergo a Police Check or Working with Children Check as a condition of their employment.

SECTION D: Burnet Overview

Burnet Institute is a leading Australian medical research and public health organisation focused on achieving better health for vulnerable communities in Australia and internationally by accelerating the translation of research, discovery and evidence into sustainable health solutions. The Institute is headquartered in Melbourne with programs that operate across Asia, the Pacific and in Africa.

Burnet's culture links innovative discovery-oriented research and implementation research with development and humanitarian action. World-class laboratory and field-based research is integrated into multidisciplinary programs aimed at the prevention, detection and treatment of diseases of global significance. This unique approach allows the Institute to make a tangible and sustainable impact on health in both developed and developing countries.

The Institute has three major thematic programs – Disease Elimination, Behaviours and Health Risks, and Maternal and Child Health, and two expansion programs – Healthy Ageing and Health Security. Staff within these Programs are supported by cross-cutting communities of practice; the disciplines of Life Sciences, Public Health and International Development.

RID-TB Project Overview

Burnet has a long history of collaborating with donors, Government and other partners in particular areas of need in Papua New Guinea. Since August 2014, Burnet has been a partner in the multi-stakeholder response to the major TB epidemic in Western Province. This epidemic is characterised by the emergence and spread of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) with Daru as the known hotspot of intense transmission of DR-TB. This is a public health emergency with rates of DR-TB that are arguably the highest documented globally at the district level. At the same time, there is limited capacity nationally, and at the provincial level to deliver and sustain an effective response.

Burnet is contributing to the response as the technical lead in the design of an effective response and in monitoring its implementation. Burnet is utilising a partnership approach with Western Provincial Health Office (PHO), Daru General Hospital and other implementing partners such as World Vision. Burnet implemented Phase I and IIA of RID-TB from August 2014 to December 2018, funded by the Australian Aid program via the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). RID-TB phase IIB (January – September 2019) aligns Burnet's contribution to the goal and objectives of the Western Province Strategic Plan and South Fly District Implementation Plan. The successful achievement of the goal and objectives will require adequately resourced contributions from a range of partners. Phase IIB has 5 strategic interventions.

1. Design and support the implementation of a model of patient-centred TB care for Daru (DS-TB and DR-TB) at facility and community level in Daru
2. Identify health systems bottlenecks for TB and design and support the implementation of systems solutions
3. Identify needs, strategies and modalities for community engagement to strengthen the delivery of effective TB care
4. Understand the TB epidemic and the programmatic responses through monitoring, evaluation and operational research
5. Provide technical assessment and guidance for Provincial response planning and implementation

Across all of these areas, Burnet is responsible for building capacity of health workers, program staff, community members, volunteers and other stakeholders in the skills and knowledge they need to deliver the response. Strong collaborative relationships with provincial and national stakeholders from the level of communities to policy makers will remain fundamental to the delivery of technical assistance within the response.

Further Information:

For further information, please contact Charlotte Graham (Project Manager), charlotte.graham@burnet.edu.au