

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE:	Medical Laboratory Scientist Mentor
DIVISION / SECTION:	Global and Tropical Health
SUPERVISOR:	Laboratory Lead, Infectious diseases and microbiology mentor
CLASSIFICATION LEVEL:	General Staff Level 8
SALARY RANGE:	\$96,619 - \$105,226
STATUS (FTE):	Full Time

NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING DIRECTLY: 1

NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING INDIRECTLY: 4

ABOUT MENZIES:

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across Northern and Central Australia.

THE PROJECT:

The focus of the Fleming Fund Country Grant for Timor-Leste is strengthening the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial use (AMU) surveillance systems and antimicrobial consumption (AMC) data capture in both the human and animal health sectors. The project will facilitate a stronger One Health approach to surveillance, bringing together multi-sectoral stakeholders to share surveillance data and gain a better understanding of AMR, AMU and AMC.

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The medical laboratory scientist mentor will contribute to capacity building within the bacteriology department of the National Health Laboratory (NHL), with a focus on basic microbiological techniques for organism identification, Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) and reporting. The role will contribute to teaching and technical advice for laboratory activities relevant to strengthening AMR and AMU surveillance system in the human health sector, including the introduction of new equipment and new tests. The role will work to strengthen quality and biosafety within the NHL, working closely with Timorese scientists employed by NHL and Menzies, and with visiting scientist mentors from the Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) Laboratory, contributing to Surveillance Training, Research Opportunities and National Guidelines for improving communicable disease control in Timor-Leste (STRONG TL) activities.

The position will be based in Dili, Timor Leste.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Together with the Project Leads and Laboratory Lead, support the development of capacity within the National Health Laboratory (NHL) for laboratory diagnostics, AMR testing, quality assurance and AMR surveillance,
2. Assist the Laboratory Lead and NHL staff with the implementation and validation of new equipment installed in the NHL as part of the Fleming Fund project.

3. Assist NHL staff with coordination of routine internal and external quality assurance (EQA) activities and development / revision of SOPs.
4. Provide on-the job coaching and mentoring for laboratory staff at NHL, with a focus on quality assured basic microbiological testing: microscopy, culture, identification and AST.
5. Supervise Menzies laboratory staff based in Timor-Leste.
6. Work together with the Laboratory Lead, Infectious diseases and microbiology mentor and the Paediatrics and health systems researcher to strengthen the collaboration between clinicians at HNGV and medical scientists at NHL.
7. Work together with the Veterinary Laboratory Scientist mentor, support the Biosafety officer to develop and implement policies and procedures that will lead to improved biosafety in the human health lab (NHL) and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL).
8. Contribute to approved Menzies research projects associated with the Fleming Fund and STRONG TL projects, based in NHL
9. Assist the Project Leads with reporting requirements for funders, collaborators, and internal Menzies purposes.
10. Any other tasks as reasonably required by the supervisor, Division Leader and/or Director.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Essential:

1. Postgraduate qualification and extensive relevant experience in medical science.
2. Proven experience working as a Medical Scientist in a diagnostic laboratory with experience in microscopy, bacterial culture, basic bench testing for organism identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST); and using MALDI-TOF and VITEK or PHOENIX for identification and AST.
3. Demonstrated knowledge and ability to lead quality assurance and biosafety improvements in a medical laboratory.
4. Experience teaching, training and supervising medical laboratory scientists.
5. High level expertise in tropical diseases, health systems strengthening and capacity development in low-resource settings.
6. Ability to correspond with stakeholders, manage sensitive issues and maintain confidentiality.
7. Strong communication skills and demonstrated ability to be flexible and pragmatic, especially in a cross-cultural setting
8. Initiative, good judgement and strong problem-solving skills with demonstrated ability to work under broad direction as part of a multidisciplinary team.
9. Demonstrated ability to think analytically and critically and to synthesize relevant data in the stated area(s) of interest.
10. Undertake a National Police Clearance, hold a Working With Children (Ochre) card and obtain working rights in East Timor
11. An understanding and awareness of relevant Workplace Health and Safety as well as Equal Opportunity principles and legislation along with a commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe workplace for all Menzies staff, students, volunteers and visitors.

Desirable:

1. Ability to communicate in Tetum, Bahasa Indonesian or Portuguese an advantage.

Approved by: Menzies Human Resources

Date: 12.08.2019

GSL 8

PACKAGE COMPONENT	Minimum Value GSL 8/1 (\$)	Maximum Value GSL 8/4 (\$)
Gross Salary (position advertised as General Staff Level 8)	96,619	105,226
Superannuation (14% superannuation contribution depends on employee contributing 3% of pre tax salary)	13,527	14,732
Salary Packaging Grossed Up (Based on utilising the full \$15,900 salary packaging component plus the \$2,550 Meal Entertainment Card.)	10,162	10,718
Leave Loading (Payable on the last pay before Christmas (first year will be a pro rata payment))	1,664	1,664
Total Salary Package	121,971	132,339