

Voluntary placements for O&G specialists in Zambia

Salary:	N/A - Bursary of £40 per day provided
Location	Zambia
Length of contract	Voluntary

About the Role

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We are seeking applications for volunteer placements in Zambia for appropriately qualified senior trainees (ST4+)* and consultants in Obstetrics and Gynaecology currently working in the NHS in the UK. This project is in partnership with the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET) and the Zambia College of Medicine and Surgery (ZACOMS).

Volunteer placements will focus on providing mentorship and guidance to Zambian Obstetrics and Gynaecology specialist trainees in health facilities in a range of rural and urban locations across Zambia and to work with local and national teams to deliver health system strengthening activities.

Placements will be voluntary with in-country and travel costs covered for placements of between three and six months. Volunteers will be based in Teaching, Provincial or District level hospitals in Zambia with existing Zambian specialists and trainees, with the exact location determined by the need of trainees at the time the placements begins.

Overarching logistical support, including; international travel, accommodation, medical registration, logistical, financial and pastoral requirements will be provided to the volunteer by THET's UK and Zambia offices, with clinical mentorship and support offered by the RCOG.

About THET

Today, one billion people will never see a qualified health worker in their lives.

Since 1988, THET has been working to change this. From reducing maternal deaths in Uganda to improving the quality of hospital care for injured children in Myanmar, we work to strengthen local health systems and build a healthier future for all.

We do this by leveraging the expertise and energy of the UK health community, supporting Health Partnerships between NHS institutions, Royal Colleges and academic institutions in the UK and those overseas.

In the past ten years THET has reached over 100,000 health workers across 31 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia in partnership with over 130 UK institutions.

You can learn more about our work on [our website](#).

Role description

- Provide mentorship for trainees in their development as specialists, including; support with exam preparation, providing tailored teaching sessions and workshops, supporting self-reflective learning and accompanying them on theatre lists on a weekly basis.
- Providing one to one mentorship assistance to trainees as required.
- Assist local specialists and trainees with clinical service provision when required to support schedules of work.

- Through liaison with senior leadership, prepare to lead specific education related initiatives, such as Case Reviews and Journal Clubs as required.
- In consultation with local specialists and trainees, identify and undertake quality improvement initiative(s) within the placement site and more widely in the district and province as the opportunity arises, pertinent to the training and development of local trainees.
- Take part in local and district and potentially national meetings to discuss health system strengthening
- Consciously considering and reflecting upon learning points relevant to bring back to NHS practice in the UK
- Taking part in regular feedback meetings with THET on how the placement is progressing
- Submission of a final report at the end of placement and a further report 3 months post-placement demonstrating the benefits brought back to NHS practice.

Other potential areas:

- Training of non-specialist health workers (e.g. midwives) if/when required and agreed with local specialist(s).
- Site visits to other facilities in the Province alongside trainees or as required by local specialists/trainees.
- Training quality assessment work alongside ZACOMS/RCOG as required.
- Guideline development
- Respectful care

About you

Essential

- ST4 and above* trainee or consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist (please note that in line with the project objective for reciprocal benefit to the NHS, the volunteer should be currently working in medical practice in the NHS and not fully retired)
- Experience in mentorship of trainees
- Experience in working with a range of individuals from different cultures
- Experience of working or volunteering in limited resource settings or a strong understanding of how to prepare to adapt to the role and expectations according to context and the needs of local peers.

Desirable

- Experience of health system strengthening in a low-resource context
- Familiarity with the health system of Zambia or another sub-Saharan African country, though not essential would be desirable.

How to apply

Please submit an expression of interest with your CV and supporting letter to jobs@rcog.org.uk.

The placements will be open to individuals to travel between October 2022 and July 2023, depending on availability and the time required for approval at your hospital. Interviews for the placements will be organised on a rolling basis and will be conducted virtually by the RCOG. For any questions regarding the placement, please contact the RCOG Centre for Women's Global Health, cwgh@rcog.org.uk

*Expressions of interest for the placements will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and individuals who have not yet reached ST4 but who have significant relevant experience are encouraged to apply.

Closing date for applications: 10.00am on Monday 31st October 2022.

We believe that diverse teams will deliver the best outcomes for women's healthcare and we strive to be an inclusive employer. We are therefore looking for candidates whose backgrounds, experience and identity enhance the diversity of our existing team. We are particularly encouraging applications from underrepresented groups at the College such as those from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds and those with a disability. To find out more, please see our Diversity Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy.

About us

The RCOG is a professional membership association dedicated to improving women's health care across the world. We do this by setting standards for clinical practice, providing doctors with training and lifelong learning, and working with partners to advocate for women's health and health care across their life course. We are a global leader in this specialist area, supporting 16,000 members in the UK and internationally. We are a values-led organisation placing high standards, innovation, openness, inclusiveness and trust at the centre of all we do.