

HEALTH ECONOMIST CONSULTANT WITH IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON,

Post: Health Economist consultant

Location: Delhi, India

Duration of contract: one year in the first instance

Salary: competitive based on experience

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This post will be employed under Imperial College London as part of an ongoing programme of work through the activities of the International Decision Support Initiative (iDSI).

Background

Imperial College London – Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI)

Imperial College London is a science-based university with an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, and is consistently rated amongst the world's best universities. The IGHI is one of six Global Institutes established by Imperial to promote interdisciplinary workings to meet some of the greatest challenges faced by society. IGHI is at the forefront of the improving healthcare through evidence-based innovation. Led by Professor Darzi since 2010, the Institute comprises a multidisciplinary team focusing on the co-creation and diffusion of healthcare innovation to tackle some of the most pressing global challenges. The Institute focuses on the delivery of high quality and internationally pertinent research organised around seven centres of excellence. These centres are tightly woven within the clinical setting and together form a value-adding and supportive framework for fostering research expertise, translating cutting-edge research and establishing a recognised brand, which readily informs and influences the highest levels of industrial, academic and public sector stakeholders.

The Global Health and Development Group (GHD) is based within IGHI. It leads the international Decision Support Initiative (iDSI). iDSI is a global reservoir of health, policy and economics expertise. We support countries and governments to make better decisions about how much public money to spend on healthcare and how to get the most from every dollar they spend. The initiative draws on the vast experience and track record of the British National Health Service alongside world-renowned universities, think tanks, health economists and experts. It brings together Core Partners: GHD at Imperial College London; Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP), Thailand; the Center for Global Development (CGD), USA; and Priority Cost Effective Lessons for Systems Strengthening South Africa (PRICELESS SA) at the Wits University. Our network also includes centres of expertise in China and India, and policy and academic delivery partners across the world, making iDSI uniquely placed to forge valuable regional and global partnerships.

iDSI helps countries balance trade-offs and tackle specific health challenges, which in turn strengthen whole healthcare systems. We put countries in the lead, ask the right questions, commission research and convene expertise. Our responsive, context-specific technical assistance guides a country-led process of priority setting, contextualising clinical guidelines,

placing decisions within legal frameworks, and building institutions to create the capacity for better healthcare policy decision-making.

iDSI receives funding from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Department for International Development, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

iDSI in India

iDSI partners have worked in India since 2009 with both the State and Central government partners. In line with its 12th 5 year plan for Health the Government of India, via the Department of Health Research (DHR), is now setting up a body (HTAI) to improve resource allocation decisions and strengthen the Indian healthcare system through Health Technology Assessment (HTA). iDSI have a program of work to provide technical assistance in building capacity for the institutionalisation of HTA in India.

Key working relationships

iDSI and GHD:

- Advisor, GHD & iDSI
- Associate Director and Director , GHD
- Executive Chair, Senior Programme Manager, iDSI
- iDSI partners (in particular HITAP Thailand)
- iDSI consultants in India
- Senior Adviser, iDSI

Key Working Relationships (external)

- Relevant academic centres and universities/Institutes across India
- Government departments and agencies

Other relationships

- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, India
- The World Bank India country office
- WHO India country office
- WHO – SEARO
- National Health Mission staff at state level where iDSI is engaged
- Relevant NGOs in India
- iDSI international partners

Information about the post

The Health economist consultant would play a critical role in iDSI's capacity building strategy by providing on-the-ground technical assistance through teaching and training, organising and contributing to meetings, workshops and conferences, and providing strategic guidance and technical advice to local academic and policy collaborators. The post holder will be a highly competent and motivated self-starter who is able to work independently.

The post holder will be required to:

- Provide direct technical assistance to local partners to support all phases of the HTA programme of work agreed with iDSI, with focus on health economics
- Develop and deliver teaching and training programs related to health economics
- Work closely with the iDSI advisor to support specific aspects of the iDSI HTA programme of work in India related to health economics

- Help raise awareness of HTA in India, and the work of iDSI and Imperial College London towards building capacity for HTA, to local and global partners in India and internationally

Key Responsibilities

Providing Technical support

- Leading on the delivery of HTA and health economics training workshops, seminars, and other capacity-building activities for local partners in India.
- Assisting with needs assessment activities, working with local experts, as required, to identify current practice, system-readiness, and capacity relating to HTA
- Critically appraising relevant cost-effectiveness / budget impact analyses, clinical research studies, epidemiological data, activity data and other information in India
- Evaluating the validity and relevance of data which may be highly complex and/or conflicting from a variety of sources
- Providing specialist advice on the preparation and presentation of structured summaries of evidence (principally in relation to health economics), including selecting the pivotal evidence to be presented to policy makers in India
- Contributing to technical and organisational developments and proposing changes to policy and methodology as it relates to the work of the iDSI
- Contributing to the writing, editing and publishing of reports and journal articles
- Developing and maintaining accurate and complete records of work to ensure an audit trail, including bibliographic databases and records of literature searches
- Preparing and producing reports and giving presentations to other iDSI, clients and other stakeholder groups
- Collecting and collating all evidence required for the monitoring and evaluation of the programme of work in India, especially in Health Economics
- Providing on going technical advice and support to the HTAIn affiliated technical staff
- Providing support to other members of the iDSI team,
- Contributing to technical and organisational developments and proposing changes to policy and methodology as it relates to the work of the iDSI

Planning & Organising

- Working with local partners and iDSI staff to plan and organise activities related to meetings and workshops held in India and abroad pertaining to the HTA work programme, as required.
- Organising and planning personal workload which covers multiple projects at different stages of development
- Liaising with staff in other relevant agencies in India to prioritise workloads and maintain cross team management systems

Liaison and communication

- Communicating very regularly (at least twice a week) and effectively with the iDSI Team at GHD
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships and engagement with a very diverse range of parties in India involved in projects with iDSI, including government staff and academic institutional partners, as well as GHD team members, national and international consultants, and global funders

- Giving presentations on highly complex and sometimes conflicting or contentious information to large multidisciplinary groups
- Responding to queries from external sources (national and international) on area of work relating to health economics
- Representing the iDSI team on health economics topics at local, national, and international meetings when relevant
- Contributing to initiatives to publicise the work of the iDSI, including website content , and associated communication documents
- Supporting the Associate Director, adviser, and iDSI team members in developing and maintaining effective working relationships with relevant national and international partners and stakeholders, especially in India.

Other Duties

- Performing any other duties within the range of skills and abilities of the post holder, as required and as may be deemed broadly in line with the responsibilities outlined here
- Travelling to meetings outside Delhi approximately 8 times per year, which may include an overnight stay.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate the following:

Criteria	Essential/ Desirable (E/D)
Education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters degree or Doctorate in health economics 	E
Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiencing of developing and critically appraising economic models relating to Health Technology Assessment (HTA) • Experience of teaching and training in health economics, including preparation of teaching materials • Experience in critically appraising health literature, including non-randomised and uncontrolled studies • Experience or familiarity with research design, methodology, conduct and reporting • Experience in working with a range of individuals and organisations in a health research setting • Experience of working on projects related to international development and research and evidence synthesis and policy advice work • Proven experience of presenting complex information (health economics) to multidisciplinary audiences 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in India (highly desirable) • Experience of preparing summaries of research findings • Experience of supporting a multidisciplinary team • Experience of working with donors and of the development aid environment 	D
Knowledge	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed specialist knowledge of decision analytic modelling, and the ability to analyse, and critique economic models relating to Health Technology Assessment (HTA) • Understanding of the principles of evidence-based healthcare, critical appraisal and the interpretation and synthesis of health care research evidence • Understanding of HTA and/or public health research and assessment methodology • Working knowledge of all of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social/Health insurance • Out of pocket expenditure and impoverishment • Public health and health policy • Clinical trials • Epidemiology • Systematic reviewing 	E

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of current developments in the Indian healthcare landscape • An understanding of the social, political, economic and technical context within which National and State health insurance and benefits packages operate within India • An understanding of the work of IDSI Imperial College • Knowledge of econometric techniques 	D
Skills and Abilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective and persuasive communicator demonstrating oral, written and presentation skills with a high degree of personal credibility and sensitivity • Ability to establish effective working relationships with a range of professionals across different agencies • Ability to present highly complex, sensitive or contentious information, where persuasive and empathic skills may be necessary to deal with sceptical and sometimes hostile audiences • Ability to analyse and critique economic (including econometric) models • Ability to design/develop databases • Ability to think and plan strategically and to exercise sound judgement in the face of conflicting pressures • Ability to gather data, analyse, critique and synthesise complex information and prepare reports and briefing documents • Ability to work independently to tight deadlines • Ability to prioritise work efficiently and effectively • Ability to use standard Microsoft packages (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Outlook) and ability to use the Internet to search for and resource information 	E
Other Requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to travel on a semi-regular basis. • Flexible attitude and ability to work as part of a team. • Thorough attention to detail 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to work in India (Passport, working visa, OCI card) • Basic knowledge of Hindi and/or Urdu 	D