



M Northwestern Medicine*
Feinberg School of Medicine

Call for Applications

Patiented-Centered Outcome Research (PCOR) Training Program: PostDoctoral Fellowship opportunity

**“Building capacity for patient-centered outcomes research to improve
the quality and impact of HIV care in Tanzania”**

Sponsor: U.S. National Institutes of Health, Fogarty International Center

Grantee Institution: Northwestern University, Chicago, USA

mPrincipal Investigators (PI): Dr. Claudia Hawkins, Dr. Lisa Hirschhorn

Local Institution: Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) (PI):
Professor Sylvia Kaaya

Introduction:

Applications are invited to apply for a postdoctoral research fellowship position for 1-2 years. The fellowship is part of an NIH Fogarty funded HIV research training program “Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR)” which focuses on measuring and improving patient-reported outcomes (PROs) such as quality of life, functional status, symptoms, self-management and empowerment, treatment satisfaction and experiential quality among persons with HIV in Tanzania. These areas, which extend beyond the traditional clinical outcomes, are critical in understanding how to better organize, deliver and improve patient-centered care.

What you will get from this fellowship?

As a postdoctoral fellow you will receive training and mentorship in PCOR and conduct a research project in HIV that incorporates patient reported outcomes and/or experiences and involves patients who are underrepresented in conventional research studies. Successful candidates will:

- work on their projects at MUHAS or their own institutions

- receive mentoring throughout the period of the fellowship from both a US-based and Tanzanian based mentor who bring deep experience in PCOR, scientific research and writing
- have the opportunity to travel to Northwestern University, Chicago to take three non-degree research training courses relevant to their research for up to 12 weeks
- have the opportunity to participate in a number of additional training activities including PCOR skills workshops; mentoring workshops; professional development lecture series
- receive a \$10,000 seed award funding for their patient-centered research
- Limited additional funding to allow for completion of activities can be made available, based on the merits of a trainees formal written request.

By the end of the training at least one scientific article is expected to be presented in an international or regional conference and submitted to a peer-reviewed journal.

This fellowship is ideal for MD's, PhDs and other doctoral graduates who have started on a career in clinical research and want to deepen their experience, expand to include PCOR methods and have support to write papers and future research grants.

Eligibility criteria for postdoctoral position:

1. Applicants must have **either** an MD with a Masters degree (i.e. MMed), **or** other Masters degree **or** PhD degree or other doctoral equivalent from a recognized institution.
2. Prior research in HIV or HIV-related field. At least one publication resulting from this work is preferred but not required
3. Some experience in epidemiological or clinical or implementation research and committed to pursuing a career which includes research.
4. The candidate should have an interest in learning or strengthening methods in measurement of patient-outcomes and analytical methods and applying them to improve the prevention, care or treatment of people with HIV or related co-morbidities
5. This fellowship is designed to be done while working, and no salary support is provided.

Personal Attributes:

We seek persons who are highly motivated able to work both independently and as part of a team, and have excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to work with a diverse range of individuals and organizations with highly different backgrounds. Also a commitment to developing skills to become a mentor and teacher in HIV PCOR in Tanzania and contribute to the evidence needed to support Tanzania to end the HIV epidemic and improve care and treatment of patients living with HIV (PLWH).

Application:

The application must include:

- A cover letter explaining your motivation and research interests and proposed focus of your research for this training program'
- A CV containing an overview of education, experience – research, teaching, administration, professional work and references
- Copies of educational certificates (academic transcripts only)
- A list of academic publications and presentations
- A list of 2 to 3 references (name, institution, e-mail, telephone number and relation to candidate)
- A letter of support from current employer for participation including confirming availability of in-service time (study leave) to conduct the research and travel to Northwestern

We offer:

- An exciting work/training experience in an interdisciplinary HIV and PCOR research field including opportunity to take 12 weeks non-degree classes in PCOR methodology at Northwestern University. Travel and living expenses will be covered for the period of time in the US.
- Mentoring from experts in PCOR and HIV research based in Tanzania and at Northwestern
- Involvement in a new area of research in Tanzania
- A good academic environment with dedicated and enthusiastic colleagues and peers
- A large degree of independence in work
- Mentoring for grant and manuscript writing to support goals of future research

The hours dedicated by will be utilized for participating in courses and mentorship workshops, development of research proposal, attending conferences, mentoring Masters and PhD trainees and attending project meetings. These training activities will occur in-service with no additional salary support.

Assessment Plan:

Applications will be assessed in a two-step process. First, documented qualifications and the candidates' motivation and personal suitability will be assessed. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to take part in an interview about the position.

Submission procedures:

Applicants should submit application packages physically or by email to:
Director of Postgraduate Studies,
Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences,
P.O. Box 65001,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Or

Email: drp@muhas.ac.tz (cc: sebejr@yahoo.com)

For further information please contact:

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Deadline for Application is August 15th, 2022