**Global Health Fellowship Programme**

Information and Recruitment

**Apply for a Global Health Fellowship now!**

Dear ACCS EM Trainee

Congratulations on your appointment to the ACCS EM Training Programme in the East of England (EoE).

Applications are open for the Global Health Fellowship programme supported by the School of Emergency Medicine and Health Education East of England for OOPE placement in rural South Africa between ST3 and ST4.

Appointment is subject to an informal meeting (over coffee) with your Global Health Lead to discuss the GHF Programme along with your motivation, suitability and resilience. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. Completing the four year GH Programme is an extremely tough and demanding assignment, we realise that personal circumstances change leading to a need to drop out of the programme. We understand that personal circumstances change but retention of GHFs is important to us and we want to be sure that you have made an informed decision. There is no formal interview process.

Successful applicants will work as a rural medical officer employed by the SA Dept of Health in a resource poor community for 12 months. During their deployment, they will be supported by both Africa Health Placements (AHP) <http://ahp.org.za/> and Health Education England who will visit them in SA. GHFs receive a salary roughly equivalent to their NHS salary in ZAR from the South African Government (currently circa £39K) but dependent on exchange rates. AHP contract with individual GHFs and levy staged fees for their Human Resources and support services, further information on this will be given at the informal meeting. This includes obtaining medical registration in SA, finding a suitable post and getting a job offer, getting a SA Visa and Work Permit, help and advice with mobile phones, bank accounts, salary and buying a car as well as induction and social activities etc.. The £39K salary goes a long way in rural SA !

The East of England have championed the Global Health Fellowship Programme for a number of years. The Programme is supported by Health Education England. Global Health Fellows are required to attend 3 mandatory GH Educational Days each year in preparation for their deployment overseas.

Funding is available for a number of Global Health Fellows to apply for the three month Dip in TM&H course in Glasgow or an alternative in London (MSF Course). The time out can be taken as OOPE. There is no requirement for GHFs to participate in any GH academic activities prior to deployment in SA. GHFs will not be required to maintain their EPortfolio (other than as a means to record their clinical reflections) nor will they need to complete any assessments or demonstrate competences during their deployment to SA.

A number of GP/ACCS Trainees from the East of England have accepted this challenge over the last few years and we have Global Health Fellows preparing themselves for their deployment this August. Previous EoE GH Alumni have returned from their 12 month deployment in a low resource environment reporting that they have improved their leadership, resilience, decision making and clinical skills as well as knowing that they have made a major contribution to health care in a resource poor African community. They belong to a group of very special doctors. Most GH Alumni describe their experience as the single most formative event in their careers and return to work in the NHS as future leaders of our profession.

Potential GHF applicants who worry that they may not be equal to the challenge, should be reassured that they will be deployed in groups of two or three colleagues and will be clinically supported during their deployment. Most will be offered 3 week training blocks in local teaching hospitals for the development of practical skills. There are many resources to help you including SA smart phone Apps and the Zithulele Handbook. AHP run a residential weekend induction for all their Doctors focusing on HIV, TB and multi-drug resistant TB.

One of our Medical Managers in SA told us that all that he expected from GHFs from the UK was a degree of humility and a willingness to learn. A year working in Africa is more than enough time to learn and develop the skills and knowledge required. Global Health Fellows who complete the 4 year ACCS and Global Health training Programme will receive a certificate of completion of Global Health Training and be eligible to join UK.MED, the UK’s humanitarian disaster relief organisation.

South Africa is a beautiful country with many opportunities for leisure activities including game parks, mountains, beaches, water sports, paragliding, Cape Town and the Winelands. Many of our GHFs travel to Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique or even Rwanda to see the Gorillas. There is an active WhatsApp Group with GHFs getting together at the beach over the weekends for water sports and a braii, the Drakensbergs, International Cricket, Super Rugby or Music Festivals such as Bushfire in Swaziland ([www.bush-fire.com](http://www.bush-fire.com) ) or Africa Burns in the Karoo ([www.afrikaburn.com](http://www.afrikaburn.com)). Previous GHFs have reported a great work/life balance.

If you think that a Global Health Fellowship is right for you and you would like to strengthen your CV but at the same time give something back to a resource poor African community, apply now.

Further information about the Global Health Placements can be found via the following websites:

<http://primarycare.severndeanery.nhs.uk/training/trainees/sopc-global-health-placements/>

<http://www.ahp.org.za/>.

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/career/going-abroad/working-abroad>

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/-/media/Files/RCGP-Faculties-and-Devolved-Nations/International/Pages/Junior-International-Committee/2017-01-Toolkit-for-working-abroad---Final.ashx?la=en>

<https://hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/HEE%20Guidance%20for%20Trainees%20planning%20to%20volunteer%20or%20work%20overseas%20v2%20HR.pdf>



Expressions of interest are now invited from ACCS ST1 trainees who would like to embark on a Global Health Placement from August 2021 or ST2 trainees from August 2020. Please email a copy of your CV and the completed application form (attached). Allocations will be made according to Training Programme capacity. Where numbers of applications exceed the number of opportunities, offers will be made according to the applicants’ ST1 national interview ranking.

**Please note -** Global Health Fellowship applicants with primary medical qualifications (PMQs) from countries other than the UK may not be eligible for medical registration with the Health Professional Council of South Africa (HPCSA) (SA GMC) without passing qualifying examinations in South Africa at the expense of the applicant. If in doubt, please check with the [HPCSA](http://www.hpcsa.co.za/). Applicants with a tier 2 visa are eligible but should contact the National Recruitment Office gpnro@hee.nhs.uk

If you are interested then please send your completed application to hilary.foster@hee.nhs.uk

If you have any further questions or if you want to speak to an EoE GHF Alumni about their experiences, please contact Hilary Foster the EoE GH Manager Hilary.foster@hee.nhs.uk or 01223 596895.

Kind regards,

Robin While

Dr Robin While

Global Health Fellowship Programme Lead

Health Education England