



## **NURSE**

Countries: AFGHANISTAN, SIERRA LEONE

Projects: Anabah (AFG), Kabul (AFG), Lashkar-gah (AFG), Goderich (SL)

Type of contract: paid - 6 months

Language required: English

This role requires complete autonomy in managing the care of patients, often in critical condition and with polytraumatic injuries, in the Emergency Department, wards and/or Intensive Care Unit.

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### **BACKGROUND AND ORGANISATION OF WORK**

The international nurse supervises, teaches and works alongside the national staff colleagues providing treatment and care for both adult and paediatric patients admitted to the ward or in the Emergency Department.

You will collaborate with the national and international nursing colleagues, medical and technical personnel, to deliver the highest possible standards of care and treatment.

The international nurse is responsible to the Medical Coordinator, who is in charge of the management and organisation of the project.

The departments in which you may be required to work:

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:** nursing triage based on the protocols in use at the Centre;

**OUTPATIENTS DEPARTMENT:** examination rooms for dressings and post-surgery followup;

**WARDS:** 3-4 wards with a total of 70-90 beds;

**INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AND HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT:** 6-8 beds equipped in accordance with the protocols in use and the resources available.

Assignment to one or more departments will be made on the basis of your specific skills and professional experience. The workload and rota of the international nurses are variable, depending on the needs and organisational set-up of the hospital; you will usually have at least one day off a week. However patient care must be guaranteed 24/7 for emergencies on the ward and in the Emergency Department.

The international nurse organises the work of the national staff in his/her area of responsibility, together with the Medical Coordinator of the project.

### **DUTIES AND REPOSIBILITIES**

All EMERGENCY international personnel are expected to know and follow the hospital admissions criteria, guide lines, protocols, and the diagnosis and treatment standards in use in the Centre, and to ensure the correct compilation of clinical records and statistics in both computer and paper formats.

The main duties and responsibilities of the international nurse:

- Management of nursing triage in the Emergency Department, in collaboration with the national colleagues;
- In case of a mass casualty, to manage critical patients as instructed by the team leader responsible for the protocol (Mass Casualty Plan);
- Care of surgical patients, including those with polytrauma, pre and post-operatively;
- Care of critically ill patients in the Intensive Care Unit and High Dependency Unit;
- Correct application and supervision of the nursing protocols, including those regarding hygiene and sterility;
- Correct compilation and maintenance of nursing notes, clinical files and patient records;
- To assist with clinical research and record keeping as required by the scientific programmes of the specialist sector of the Medical Division of EMERGENCY.

### **OTHER SPECIFIC DUTIES AND MANAGEMENT OF STOCKS AND SUPPLIES**

The international nurse may be assigned other specific duties identified by the Medical Coordinator, based on the needs of the Centre (e.g. ensuring the hygiene protocols are being followed throughout the service areas of the hospital, management of the pharmacy and orders of consumables).

### **MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING OF LOCAL PERSONNEL**

Clinical activities and patient care are always carried out alongside and in collaboration with local personnel, who thus benefit from training in the field. There is also provision for more specific teaching activities, managed by the international specialists, in accordance with the individual needs of each hospital.

As there is a high turnover of national nursing staff, there will be a particular need to provide training to these personnel during this mission.

### **CASELOAD AND EQUIPMENT**

The technological level of the equipment present in the Centres is suited to the clinical and managerial protocols in use, and the level of professional autonomy of the national staff, with the aim of achieving - and sustaining - high standards of care. Diagnostic equipment, basic laboratory tests, technical and auxiliary services are always available.

**SURGICAL AND MEDICAL CENTRE - Anabah, Afghanistan**

Opened in 1999 as a centre for the treatment of war injuries, in 2003 the admissions criteria were extended to include Emergency Medicine and Maternity. The emergency and elective surgical interventions most frequently carried out are for urological (kidney stones) and gastrointestinal (cholecystitis) disturbances, and hernias. From a nursing point of view, work in the Emergency Department and the wards is mostly orientated towards general medical patients, especially paediatric patients.

The Centre is the referral point for a web of First Aid Posts (FAPs) and health centres for both basic and specialist care.

#### **SURGICAL CENTRE - Kabul, Afghanistan**

The Surgical Centre in Kabul is today the most important centre for war surgery in the country. The Intensive Care Unit has 6 beds with monitoring systems and ventilators.

CT scanning equipment is available. Both paediatric and adult patients are treated. Around 30% of patients are under 14 years of age, and present with bullet injuries, shrapnel, landmine injuries, stab wounds and burns (where resulting from war injury).

#### **SURGICAL CENTRE - Lashkar-gah, Afghanistan**

This is the only specialist war surgery centre in the region. The Intensive Care Unit has six beds with monitoring equipment. The admissions criteria and therefore the caseload are similar to those in Kabul, but with a higher prevalence of paediatric patients.

#### **SURGICAL AND PAEDIATRIC CENTRE - Goderich, Sierra Leone**

Every day over 130 patients are treated at the Surgical and Paediatric Centre in Goderich. Over time the admissions criteria have been broadened in response to the needs of the population: today they include Traumatology, emergency and (emergencies permitting) elective surgery. In 2012 an 8-bed Intensive Care Unit, guest quarters for relatives accompanying patients living far away from the Centre, and two new operating theatres were opened.

Many patients are paediatric medical patients, and often need resuscitation due to cerebral malaria, shock resulting from severe anaemia, serious respiratory infections, tetanus...

### **GUIDELINES, PROTOCOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

Further information on the guidelines, protocols and clinical services relevant to the post along with details of the instruments and equipment available will be provided at interview and during the period of preparation for the mission.

The general requirements and conditions are the same as for other international personnel roles.

### **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

- Nursing Degree (or equivalent Diploma) and current registration on the professional nursing register of your country of residence;
- At least 3 years' continuous professional experience in one or more of the following specialist areas: Emergency Surgery, Orthopaedics and Trauma, Intensive Care Unit, General and Emergency Medicine.

**REQUIRED AVAILABILITY**

6 months overseas stay including a period of leave to be taken at the end of the mission in agreement with the coordinator.

**TO APPLY**

If you are interested in working with EMERGENCY in a medical capacity and you fulfil the general and specific requirements set out on the website please send your CV and cover letter (specifying in the subject which position you are applying for) to:

**[RECRUITMENT@EMERGENCYUK.ORG](mailto:RECRUITMENT@EMERGENCYUK.ORG)**

During the selection process you will be evaluated on the basis of your CV, cover letter questionnaire, references and individual interview.