

# University of Salford

## Name of Organisation:

University of Salford

## Fellowship Summary

The Global Burden of Disease Report (2015) describes Hypertension as a major global risk factor, ranking second only (and linked to) inadequate diet. It is a key risk factor for non-communicable diseases including stroke, heart disease and chronic kidney disease. While highly preventable and treatable, it contributes significantly to premature deaths globally (WHO, 2023). In Zanzibar, Jorgensen et al (2020) conclude that a high prevalence of hypertension and suboptimal management along the care pathway indicates a large unmet need for improved hypertension care. This multi-disciplinary program will deliver comprehensive training to inform awareness-raising, prevention and hypertension management interventions in Uganda and Tanzania. Clinical skills training will be complemented by transferable skills in leadership, data management and evidence-based practice. On Fellows' return, UoS will develop complex interventions around hypertension reduction in local hospitals, led by Fellows as Champions, and engage local Universities to support integration of learning into their curricular.

## Weblink for Candidates

[www.salford.ac.uk](http://www.salford.ac.uk)

## Eligibility

We would invite applications from health professionals, of any cadre, engaged in hypertension prevention and management from Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital (FPRRH) and Kasangati Health Centre and Mountains of the Moon University (MMU) nursing and midwifery programs (all in Uganda) and Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) Mawenzi Hospital, Mnazi Moja Hospital (MMH), Mwembeladu Health Centre and the State University of Zanzibar (all in Tanzania). We will also consider applications from other key health centres which refer patients into the hospitals noted above in order to improve services throughout the patient care pathway and strengthen referral systems.

## Proposed Fellowship Dates

12/02/2025 to 13/05/2025

## Proposed Activity

Before arrival (2 weeks):

- We plan to start the Fellowships on an informal, virtual (but optional) basis on 15/02/2025 as this is the start of the University of Salford (UoS) teaching semester. We realise this is prior to selected Fellows' arrival in the UK, but it will enable them to meet staff and students at the very start of the modules detailed below and avoid missing critical learning.
- Identification of key syllabus areas in Tanzania and Uganda for delivery of improved hypertension training. In MMU this would focus on the BSc programs in Public Health, Nursing and Midwifery. Hypertension is a specific focus in the programs covering cardiovascular disease and abnormalities in pregnancy. We would also scan other modules to create a comprehensive approach (including for example governance, leadership and evidence-based practice).

Week 1:

- Completion of fellows' arrival documentation
- In-depth Induction Program including accessing accommodation, local orientation, practical support with IT/communications and settling in.
- Allocation of and guiding access to UoS Associate Accounts (for accessing training/library facilities).

Week 2:

- Completion of bespoke needs assessment and individual goal setting, addressing transferable skills (writing, research and leadership, presentation etc.) with team building. The needs assessment will be used to finalise bespoke programmes for each fellow.
- Commencement of face-to-face attendance on relevant components of taught modules at UoS. Prof Bhuvana Biblraaj (Director of UoS' Nursing Program) has identified relevant sessions across a range of undergraduate and Masters modules in MSc Diabetes care, Evidence Based Practice and Advanced Clinical Practice enabling Fellows to tap into relevant subject related topics (Hypertension, stroke, heart attack, research methods, basic statistics, service user in research, critical analysis of Literature). We will identify the key sessions in each module to build a tailored program.
- The 3rd day in Week 2 will take the form of a team workshop where each Fellow presents a 5-slide PowerPoint presentation on themselves and their objectives.

Week 3-13:

- Continued attendance at UoS modules noted above.
- Arrangement of NHS observational placements at Manchester Foundation Trust (via Prof Bhunvana) with clinicians working with heart failure, hypertension, stroke, heart attack team nurse practitioners and through a new partnership with the University of Bolton's Medical School.

- Commencement of Formal Skills Training including qualitative and quantitative research methods (incl. SPSS and Nvivo); action research; ethics in research; Journal Club (to encourage fellows to read and share new knowledge); writing skills; presentational skills; leadership and change-making; and teaching skills)

Week 6-13:

- Identification of relevant conferences and workshops to augment formal training and expose Fellows to current debates in the UK regarding the NHS and global health care.

Week 12-13:

- Generating plans for developing an intervention to improve hypertension care within identified health facilities and to improve curricula in public health, nursing and midwifery programs at Mountains of the Moon University and State University of Zanzibar (including production of a Policy Briefing and PPT presentation).

Week 13:

Final presentations to peer group and UoS colleagues and celebration event.

## Priority Theme

Strengthening health systems and capacity