

MSF Intersectional Pharmacist for the MENA¹ region based in Jordan

Title: Intersectional Pharmacist for the MENA region

Location: **Amman, Jordan with frequent travels to the MENA countries where MSF works**

Contract: Fixed-term 12 months with possibility of extension

Reporting to: International Pharmacist Coordinator (IPC)

Starting date: July 2019

Deadline for applications: 19th June 2019

Salary and working conditions: expatriate status; salary level 13 as per MSF international salary grid

Duration: 12 months, with possible extension after evaluation and decision by the medical directors

I. MSF INTERNATIONAL

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organisation that delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, healthcare exclusion and natural disasters. MSF offers assistance to people based only on need and irrespective of race, religion, gender or political affiliation.

MSF International is the legal entity that binds MSF's 21 sections, 24 associations and other offices together. Based in Geneva, the MSF International Office provides coordination, information and support to the MSF Movement, as well as implements international projects and initiatives as requested. The International Office also provides administrative support to the MSF Access Campaign.

II. POSITION BACKGROUND

The general objective of the position is to support MSF programs and sections in medicines and medical devices supply, by guaranteeing that MSF quality standards are applied according to the evolving situation and available information in the MENA region. The focus of this position will be on Jordan, Iraq as well as overview of Syria, Yemen, and others.

III. PLACE IN THE ORGANISATION

- This position is hierarchically and technically linked to the International Pharmacist Coordinator.
- The pharmacist is in close contact and collaboration with the pharma network and more especially the Beirut based flying intersectional pharmacist, the section pharmacists and with the International Medical Device Coordinator (IMDC).

IV. OBJECTIVES OF THE POSITION

The intersectional pharmacist supports the various sections present in the MENA countries where MSF works by solving specific supply issues with all concerned departments (medical,

¹ MENA: Middle East and North Africa

logistic, finance). This includes provision of advice/ support to the missions and Section Pharmacists, specifically:

- Gain a better knowledge on the pharmaceutical and medical device market (analysis of registered drugs, main pharmaceutical and medical device companies, etc.) in the region and the regulatory frameworks.
- For countries where local procurement is a necessity: provide information on the local purchase possibilities (manufacturers to be audited and distributors to be assessed)
- Ensure that the procurement strategies approved by the Medical Department in HQ (of each project's section) are followed and implemented by the teams in each country.
- Monitor and re-evaluate the relevance of the procurement strategies in a continuous way, taking into account MSF program developments in the countries, quality, legal and administrative issues.

The intersectional pharmacist is not supposed to replace or be the back-up of national pharmacists during holidays; each section must manage this situation by itself.

V. MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

General Objectives:

- To ensure that all sections implement the same importation and supply rules in accordance with MSF International Qualification scheme.
- To collect data to develop or maintain local purchase databases with items and sources authorised for local purchase by section pharmacists in countries where importation is not possible.
- To develop contacts and liaise with other NGOs, UN agencies (UNICEF) and local organisations concerned with quality/availability of essential medicines (including WHO Country Office) regarding pharmaceutical issues in a proactive manner, ensuring confidentiality of data generated by MSF regarding the quality of local suppliers.
- To visit distributors and report on their GDP compliance upon request and on behalf of the section pharmacists; final decision to accept or reject the distributors will be taken by the referent section pharmacist for that country.
- To ensure that all medical coordinators, field pharmacists and Section pharmacists are aware and updated on the national medicines and medical device regulations, guidelines and laws.
- To act as the focal person regarding contacts with local authorities (primarily NMRA), with MSF European Supply Centres (ESC) and with MSF regulatory affairs pharmacist concerning pharmaceutical issues, to assure intersectional coherence and cooperation.
- Support the missions in collaboration with the Access Campaign and the disease focused pharmacists in getting access to new or non-registered treatments for MSF projects.

Specific Objectives:

- a) Regularly update information on pharmaceutical and medical device legislation², in particular importation and pharmacy warehouse registration and inform section pharmacists, medical coordinators/co-pharmacists accordingly.
 - Coordinate regular meetings with the mission pharmacists/medical coordinators/supply officers where pharmaceuticals information is exchanged, and problems shared to find common solutions.
 - Follow up the National Essential Medicines List updates and if required advocate for change or discuss therapeutic specificities, in collaboration with the medical coordinators.

² Including national guidelines on Pharmacovigilance and Pharmaceutical Waste Disposal

- Follow up local distributor and registered medicines lists, with focus on manufacturers of interest to MSF.

b) Ensure all the changes in importation procedures are communicated to the MSF ESC, Section pharmacists, International Pharma Coordination, International QA Medical Device Coordinator, when relevant and MSF regulatory affairs pharmacist in a timely manner, with the involvement of the Supply team:

- Liaise with ESC Pharmacists as required to request specific technical support for importation.
- Continuously communicate to the MSF ESC and Operations the new updates and changes in the national guidelines, particularly information and regulations pertaining to pharmaceutical products importation.
- Update the ESC regarding the lobbying efforts and document the problems encountered with importation, for all the sections.

c) Database and local procurement (If local procurement is the only option for some products):

- Compile and up-date documentation for each product (selected supplier, country of manufacture) and keep updated a database (approved by SP).
- Follow up pharmacy license for storage and purchase, including inspection of premises/ cargoes by the authorities.
- Conduct local distributor assessment visits in accordance with MSF local market assessment guidelines and with approval (and conclusion) given by the SP.
- Work with all the sections to undergo pooled procurement (if agreed upon).

d) Focal person representing MSF towards the authorities on pharmaceutical issues, and ensure a coherent and consistent communication system with authorities (the “one MSF” approach):

- Participate to meetings related to pharmacy regulations.
- If needed, provide technical support for the creation of document (s) to address the importation issues with local authorities.

e) Technical pharmacy support for medical managers:

- To support supply officers, mission pharmacists/pharmacy managers and medical coordinators in providing training and advise in various topics related to drugs and medical device importation.
- Brief all new Medical Coordinators, Log-Cos and Country Pharmacists regarding pharmaceutical situation and the role of the intersectional pharmacist.

f) Act as the focal point for quality and pharmacovigilance issues:

- Provide support for Quality Alert/Batch recalls relating to medicines and medical devices (in liaison with International Pharmacist Coordinator and International QA Medical Devices Coordinator).
- Coordinate information relating to complaints received regarding medicines and medical devices.

VI. REPORTING

- Submit monthly activity reports to be shared with all section medical and logistic coordinators, section pharmacists and IPC.
- Participate to MSF medical coordinator meetings held among all sections, when requested.
- Coordinate the monthly pharmacy meetings.

- Participation in Grand-messe.
- Participation in Section Pharmacist visits and assistance in preparing these visits.
- Provide a final hand-over report for all the sections with recommendations.

VII. PROFILE REQUIREMENTS

Pharmacist with degree/diploma in pharmacy

Genuine interest in and commitment to the humanitarian principles and challenges of MSF

Experience:

- Minimum 3 years professional experiences, including 6-12 months experience in developing countries with MSF or another organisation.
- Experience with quality assurance, good distribution and storage practices and manufacturing aspects of pharmaceutical products is desirable.

Particularities:

- Fluency in English mandatory (French and Arabic would be an added advantage)
- Mature with strong interpersonal and organisational skills
- Ability to work and report independently
- Able to represent MSF with the capacity to negotiate positively and diplomatically with MoH officials and MSF national and expatriate staff
- Excellent communication and diplomatic skills
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment
- Good organisation and management skills
- Professionalism, transparency and flexibility is a must
- Ability to work in a team
- Good analytical and problem-solving skills with attention to detail
- Skilled in coaching, training and supporting pharmacist/medical supply personnel

Apply here

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

MSF is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply