



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

## **Fellowship in Paediatric Neurology**

### **Background**

Aga Khan University (AKU) with the support of the Ministry of Health and the Kenya Paediatric Fellowship Program (KPPF) is offering scholarships for a 2-year sub specialty program in **Paediatric Neurology**, commencing in January 2021.

The scholarship program is implemented in collaboration with the MOH, KPPF and other stakeholders, in order to support specialised paediatric skills and thereby address the issue of acute shortage and poor distribution of specialised child health care. The KPPF program will target paediatricians working in the public sector employed by county governments.

Successful applicants will undergo a two-year competency-based training program at the Aga Khan University and upon successful completion of the training fellows will be awarded a **Fellowship in Paediatric Neurology**.

The Aga Khan University (AKU) is a private, not for profit, international University first established in 1983, with 11 teaching sites in eight countries. The Aga Khan University, Nairobi will offer training in Paediatric Neurology in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health. This fellowship is aimed at contributing to the attainment of the highest possible level of health for all children in East Africa by promoting neurological health through high quality care, teaching, research and advocacy. The program exists to promote and advance knowledge, skills and practice of healthcare workers in Paediatric Neurology in East Africa.

Fellows will have a dual reporting to Fellowship Program Director and Chair department of Paediatrics and Child Health, and the fellowship is competency based, where fellows complete a specified written course study in Paediatric Neurology and also engage in case based study as outlined in the Paediatric Neurology curriculum.

### **Program Objectives include:**

- To provide standards and guidelines for certification of neurology training and practice.
- To promote and advance knowledge, skills and practice of Paediatric neurology.
- To promote relevant research in neurosciences
- To develop relevant guidelines for prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of neurological disorders.

- To collaborate with relevant colleges, organizations, and associations in the Region and internationally as appropriate
- To promote neurological health through advocacy for improved awareness, prevention, and access to high-quality care for neurological disorders

### **Minimum admission requirements:**

Candidates will be considered eligible for trainee fellowship in the Paediatric Neurology Fellowship Program if they meet all the following requirements:

1. A qualified paediatrician with a Master of Medicine in Paediatrics and Child Health (MMED) from a recognized university or an equivalent qualification from an institution recognised by the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council.
2. Registered to practice in Kenya by the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council.
3. Currently employed as a paediatrician by a county government or other recognised health institution in Kenya.
4. Following interviews, successful candidates employed by the county governments need to secure approval and release from a county government or institution training committee. This release should include commitment from the employer to continue your salary during the training period.
5. Evidence of bonding from the current employer will be required from successful candidates, prior to admission to commence training.

Recruitment into the programme will be conducted through a transparent competitive selection process that would include consideration of a written application, shortlisting and interview process.

### **Personal attributes:**

- Demonstrate high-level clinical skills and display an understanding of family engagement in the care of children with neurology conditions
- Good communication skills
- Effective team player and manager
- An organized learner with an appropriate training mindset

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Assess and manage patients
- Conduct daily ward rounds. Participate actively in all matters relating to patient care and contribute to decision-making during daily rounds, with assistance from the attending staff
- Review and examine patients consistently by performing such duties as taking case histories, conducting physical examinations, and ordering diagnostic laboratory and radiology studies in discussion with consultants.
- Monitor patients' progress on a regular basis.

- Participate in clinics and external rotations as assigned / determined by the curriculum rotation while being mindful of timely completion of logbook requirements.
- Initiate discussions with patient and caregivers to enable better diagnostic and therapeutic medical care and services.
- Provide telephone guidance to physicians seeking advice from the AKUHN affiliated staff for acute Paediatric neurology problems during evenings and weekends/holidays, with backup provided from the attending staff.
- Assist in the performance of certain technical procedures, such as central venous catheter insertion, arterial line insertion, review of neurophysiology test procedures and results etc. as per privileges under the supervision of the attending physician
- Approve/clarify orders (investigations, consultations and treatments) written by junior house staff in cases of uncertainty
- Assist in the examination and observation of emergency cases by performing such duties as taking case histories, conducting physical examinations, and ordering diagnostic laboratory and radiology studies
- Attend to critical patients in a timely manner. When necessary, carry out privileged and potentially life-saving emergency surgical and medical procedures as per privileges and competency.
- Educate patients on wellness, prevention and early detection of neurology conditions.
- Provide appropriate materials, resources and referrals to patients, family members/care givers.
- Educate patients on informed consent, choice of attending physician and right to seek second opinion. • Present cases at ward and clinic-pathology/ multidisciplinary rounds, Morbidity and Mortality Rounds.
- Provide regular junior resident teaching, under the supervision of the attending staff
- Supervision and education of junior house staff.
- Take charge of morning rounds, and be the first voice in generating patient management
- Liaise with the consultants and various department. Initiate timely discussions with relevant consultants/departments to arrive at the best treatment plan for specialized cases.
- Attend morning hand-over and sign-out rounds to assist in transferring care to/from the on-call teams.
- Ensure that daily progress notes are made for all patients.
- Assist in screening potential transfers/admissions to/from critical care units, with assistance from the attending staff.

## **Scholarships**

Successful candidates employed by County Governments will receive an AKU-KPFP scholarship which will cover tuition fees, book allowance and a monthly stipend.

### **How to Apply**

Applications should include a cover letter, detailed current curriculum vitae, statement of motivation and a completed **KPFP Scholarship application form** available on the fellowships page in the AKU website.

The application should be sent by email to:

The Chairperson  
Department of Paediatrics  
Aga Khan University  
c/o Human Resources Department, [hr.recruitment@aku.edu](mailto:hr.recruitment@aku.edu)

Further information may be obtained from the PGME Programme Director, by writing to [mc.ea@aku.edu](mailto:mc.ea@aku.edu).

**Closing date for applications is Friday October 16, 2020**