Agreement for Performance of Work

Research Study on the Provision of Clinical Pharmacy Service in Government Hospitals

Terms of Reference

This consultancy is requested by:

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<th>Unit</th>
<th>HSS/EMT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Division</td>
<td>WCO PHL</td>
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1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The overall objective of the research is to generate evidence on the importance of providing clinical pharmacy service in the hospital including antimicrobial stewardship. Specifically, this technical assistance aims to: (1) determine the current number of clinical pharmacists in the country; (2) identify the roles of clinical pharmacists in government hospitals; (3) establish the ideal clinical pharmacist to patient ratio; and (4) calculate the estimated budget requirement for the additional plantilla position for clinical pharmacist in government hospitals.

2. Background

Rational use of medicines remains to be one of the key components of the Philippine Medicines Policy since the enactment of the Generics Act of 1988 and being the “medication experts,” pharmacists play a vital role in the effective implementation of this pillar. The provision of pharmaceutical care aims to improve the patient’s health-related quality of life and attain positive clinical outcomes through collaborative work with the patient as well as with the rest of the healthcare team. With the goal of promoting health and preventing diseases, pharmacists are expected to assess, monitor, initiate and modify medication use, as deemed necessary, to ensure that drug therapy regimens are safe and effective.

In the local context, the lack of a clinical pharmacist plantilla position in most hospitals contribute to inefficient treatment management of inpatients. Most pharmacists are just confined in the four corners of the pharmacy without having actual interaction with the patients and other healthcare providers. As such, their supposedly valuable contributions with regard to patient care are underestimated. Given this current situation, physicians and pharmacists should work hand in hand to achieve optimal health outcomes by focusing more on drug-related services. Physicians should be guided when it comes to the medicines they prescribe so any drug-drug, drug-food/beverage, drug-laboratory test and drug-herbal supplement interactions can be monitored carefully. Moreover, clinical pharmacists should be included in the team doing the ward rounds so any questions on patient medication can readily be addressed.

Given that the country is now embarking on the establishment of the Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) program in hospitals, the active involvement of a clinical pharmacist in the AMS team should not be undermined since one of the major drivers of antimicrobial resistance is irrational use of antibiotics. Hence, in order to combat this emerging public health threat, sufficient and competent human resource should be made available in the health facilities.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)

Start date: 23/10/2017
End date: 20/12/2017
4. **Work to be performed**

**Method(s) to carry out the activity**
- Develop inception report and research protocol; and
- Conduct the actual research study on the provision of clinical pharmacy service in government hospitals and recommend the job description of clinical pharmacists.

**Output/s**
- Inception report;
- Research protocol;
- Interpretation and syntheses of data, recommendations on the job description of clinical pharmacists, ideal ratio of clinical pharmacist to patients, estimated budget for a plantilla position of a clinical pharmacist, and other related pertinent findings;
- Final research output and accomplishment report

5. **Technical Supervision**

The selected Consultant will work on the supervision of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Officer:</th>
<th>Benjamin Lane, Team Leader, Health Systems</th>
<th>Email: <a href="mailto:laneb@who.int">laneb@who.int</a></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manager:</td>
<td>Gundo Aurel Weiler, WR Philippines</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:weilerg@who.int">weilerg@who.int</a></td>
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6. **Specific requirements**

**Qualifications required:**
A graduate of Pharmacy or any health-related course, preferably with a Master’s degree

**Experience required:**
- At least two (2) research projects undertaken with government and academic institutions of similar nature and magnitude in the country/ Philippine setting and/ or internationally;
- Preferred with at least (2) years of hospital practice

**Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:**
Expertise and knowledge on clinical pharmacy and antimicrobial stewardship

**Language requirements:**
Fluent in both spoken and written English

7. **Competencies**

Excellent research, organizational, communication, interpersonal and writing skills

8. **Place of assignment**

Office of the WHO Representative in the Philippines

9. **Medical clearance**

The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

10. **Travel**

The Consultant is not required to travel.

*All travel arrangements will be made by WHO – WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive subsistence allowance.

Visas requirements: it is the consultant’s responsibility to fulfil visa requirements and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.*