JOB DESCRIPTION: Medical Doctor, Sierra Leone

Title of the post: Medical Doctor (based in Kenema, Sierra Leone)
Duration of mission: 1 month

Context
Following the recent of outbreak of VHF in West Africa the Red Cross has a need for Medical Doctors. Due to the rapidly evolving situation surrounding the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, with 3 countries primarily affected (Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia) the International Federation of the Red Cross has an urgent need for Medical Doctors to work in Kenema District, Sierra Leone.

This is in response to a request to the Red Cross Movement to support the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Sierra Leone with the establishment of an Ebola isolation unit for the care and management of patients with VHF. Sierra Leone Red Cross Society are coordinating community based interventions to tackle the epidemic, conducting awareness raising activities and hygiene promotion, tracing people who have been in contact with those infected, and managing dead bodies.

Function
The Doctor and Clinical Officers are responsible for the clinical care and the management of the patients. They must be present when a new patient arrives and ensure that appropriate protocols are respected as well as clinical care of confirmed Ebola patients.

Position within the Organization
The Doctor will work as part of a team of International Red Cross and Red Crescent nurses and Doctors. He / She will provide supportive treatment to patients from the community infected with VHD.

Main responsibilities
- He/she is responsible to work on the ward of the IFRC hospital and provide supportive treatment and care to a range of patients
- The doctor is able to develop and maintain good working relationships with the various health actors.
- He/she organizes or participates to all necessary internal or external meetings to ensure continuity and quality of care to patients.
- In conjunction with WHO and MoH ensure consistent infection control procedures are in place.

Main tasks
- In full PPE - performs a ward round at least twice a day.
- Attends to patients according to the clinical evolution.
- Prescribes treatment in the patient file.
- Verifies that the treatment has been given according to the prescription.
- Informs the doctor in charge of the VHF Treatment unit about the evolution of the patients admitted.
- Attends to new admissions as soon they arrive:
- Informs the laboratory technician responsible for blood sampling.
- Coordinates with the Head Nurse and nursing staff, ensuring the follow up of infection control and protective measures.
- Participates in the weekly meeting of the VHF Treatment unit.

Place of work
- Based in Kenema, Sierra Leone

Working hours:
- On call 24 hours a day. Working hours according to shift requirements.

Management responsibilities
- Able to work as part of an international team

Qualifications & Experience required for the post
- MD (active registration in country of origin)
- Extensive post registration experience
- Experience with tropical medicine / Diploma in Tropical medicine
- Experience of working in epidemic
- Anaesthetist/ Infectious disease/paediatric/ER experience /ITU etc.
- Work experience in resource poor hospital settings (desirable)

Main skills required for the post
- Excellent communication skills
- Well organized and analytical
- Flexible, has the ability to plan and fix priorities
- Ability to work and deal with difficult conditions
- Ability to meet stress with emotional stability, objectivity and optimism
- Understand and awareness of infection control protocols and procedures and their application to an outbreak scenario.
- Awareness and experience of working cross culturally
- Works well in a multi-disciplinary team
- Works well under pressure
- Can live in basic conditions
- Flexible to the changing needs and development of the programme activities
- Works efficiently in a challenging context
- Adherence to the Red Cross principles
- Strict adherence to infection control and good knowledge of barrier nursing