

Vacancy Announcement: Research Medical Officer

No. of vacant positions: 2

Contract Duration: 6 months

Study location: Kurigram and Gaibandha

The BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) at BRAC University was established in 2004 as an educational and research institution focusing on the integral areas of teaching, research, and services. The goal of the school is not only to impart knowledge but also to act as a center of excellence in knowledge creation through research and training that connects with practice.

Webpage Link for more details: <https://bracjpgsph.org/career>

Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University in partnership with BRAC Education Programme and Department of Architecture at BRAC University is going to implement a study titled “Testing interventions to mitigate the health impact of heatwaves on primary school children in climate vulnerable districts of Bangladesh”. The objectives of the study are to: 1.) To conduct a situation analysis to explore communities’ perception and experiences, and impact of heat waves on the health and well-being of primary school students aged between 7 and 14 years in 2 climate-vulnerable districts of Bangladesh; 2.) To contextualize “heat education program”, “solar reflective paint” and “bamboo ceiling with polyethylene foam” interventions in collaboration with local communities and implement them in BRAC NGO run schools, to address the impacts of heatwaves on primary school students in 2 climate-vulnerable districts; 3.) To assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these localized interventions in addressing heatwaves impact on the health outcomes of primary school students; 4.) To assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these localized interventions in addressing heatwaves impact on the educational outcomes of primary school students. 5.) To assess the feasibility of scaling up the interventions in low resource but high-risk community settings. This study aims to assess the impact of a combination of physical infrastructure and heat-education program interventions for improving health and educational outcomes of primary school children in two climate vulnerable districts, Kurigram and Gaibandha. The study will recruit Research Medical Officer (RMO) to support the medical teams at field-level. Details are stated below:

The study will recruit **Research Medical Officer** to support the surveillance teams.

Purpose:

The Research Medical Officer (RMO) will play a key role in assessing the health impacts of heatwaves on primary school children in climate-vulnerable districts. The primary objective of this role is to collect and analyze health and mental well-being data of students to evaluate the effectiveness of heat-mitigation interventions. The RMO will contribute to ensuring accurate and comprehensive data collection and provide health-related insights to improve the well-being of children in low-resource settings.

Key responsibilities:

- Attend training on methodology, approach, and data collection tools, and ensure adherence to data collection protocols.
- Conduct regular health assessments of primary school students (ages 7-14) to monitor heat-related conditions such as heat rash, heat exhaustion, and heat cramps.
- Administer the youth version of the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scales (DASS-Y) to assess mental health conditions.
- Support the specialized health-professional team in data collection, entry, and management.
- Assist in data analysis and reporting to ensure the reliability and validity of findings.
- Assist in preparing field plans and guiding the data collectors to collect data.



- Real-time data entry through tablets using data collection software (eg. **KoboTollbox**).
- Complete daily reports of progress or activities completed, including communicating challenges faced in data collection and the status of data collection.
- Participate in community engagement activities to ensure effective implementation of interventions.
- Some other administrative and project-related tasks for implementing the research
- Regular communication regarding troubleshooting and any other field issues.
- Adhere to ethical standards and guidelines throughout the data collection process, ensuring the rights and privacy of participants are respected.
- Adhere to all policies and guidelines of the school.

Requirements/Qualification:

- **Educational Qualification:** MBBS from a recognized institution
- **Experience:** At least 1-2 years of experience in community health research, field data collection, or child health assessments.

Other requirements:

- Proficiency in health data collection and management.
- Experience with mental health assessment tools such as DASS-21 is preferred.
- Excellent communication skills in English and Bengali
- Understanding of healthcare systems, research methodology, and clinical practices.
- Ability to work under pressure and in complex team environments.
- Ability to perform extensive fieldwork, job location will be **Kurigram** and **Gaibandha**.
- **Both males and females are encouraged to apply.**

Preference will be given to candidates residing in Gaibandha or Kurigram district.

Salary: As per JPGSPH policy.

Contract Period: Tentative 6 months (expected to start from mid-April 2023).

Application Process:

Interested candidates are advised to send an application with a complete CV to: cncdn@bracu.ac.bd by **March 27, 2025**. Please mention **Research Medical Officer (IDRC project)** in the subject line of your email.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview. All tests & interviews will be held in Dhaka.

We are an equal opportunity employer and encourage applications from qualified women and minority candidates.

The organization reserves the right to make an appointment at a grade lower than that advertised.