

Job title	Medical Officer - Cardiothoracic Surgery (6 month Contract) Ref: 0201 A
Salary package	Grade 1 R 780 612 – R 840 942 (DPSA salary scales) Grade 2 R 892 551 – R 975 945 (DPSA salary scales)
Reporting structure	Head of Clinical Unit
Closing date	15 March 2019

JOB SUMMARY

The Medical Officer - Cardiothoracic Surgery at the NMCH provides provision of congenital and paediatric cardiac surgery consultative and technical services.

The provision of congenital and paediatric thoracic surgery consultative and technical services.

The operation, maintenance and utilisation of extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO).

To recognise and anticipate changes of patient needs based on past experience and thereby co-ordinate and communicate with appropriate resources as needed in facilitating a plan of management.

To advise and assist others in the setting of departmental policies and standard operating procedures.

Serve in the mentorship of the chief cardiothoracic surgeon.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

- MBBCh, or equivalent
- A minimum of 6 months Tertiary and Quaternary care, Paediatric experience.
- Registration with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as qualified for clinical practice within South Africa.
- Advanced Trauma Life Support – not necessarily updated.
- Basic Surgical Skills course.
- Minimum of three years post-community service.
- Minimum of eighteen months post-community service surgical experience.
- Minimum of six months of cardiothoracic surgery exposure as a Medical Officer.
- Computer literacy.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Organisational skills.
- Multi-tasking.
- Group co-ordination.

PREFERRED:

- ECMO – experience with equipment, strategy and central and/or peripheral cannulation of neonates, infants, paediatric and adult patients
- Surgery: Ability to perform cardiac and thoracic procedures, major and minor, as primary and/or assistant surgeon

- Surgery: Ability to perform cardiac and thoracic procedures, major and minor, as primary and/or assistant surgeon on neonatal, infant and paediatric patients
- Research - familiarity with data acquisition and conduct of evidence-based research. Postgraduate research projects will be regarded favourably
- Minimum of six months of critical care exposure
- Advanced Paediatric Life Support
- Paediatric Critical Care exposure.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

- Inter-professional practice - To facilitate integration between cardiothoracic surgery and critical care, neonatology, pulmonology, cardiology, nursing and allied medical disciplines in providing expedient and comprehensive patient care during the entire peri-operative patient experience.
- Maintain philosophy of family-centered care - To facilitate and ensure the integration of patients' families in the patient management process.
- ECMO equipment - Co-ordinates with Perfusionists the preventative maintenance and routine checks of all ECMO related equipment. Familiarity with the entire disposable inventory management and procurement process including ordering, in co-ordination with Perfusionists and pharmacy.
- ECMO priming - Ability to prime and operate ECMO circuit for patient use.
- To provide support in circuit assembly and trouble-shooting for other extra-corporeal technologies, such as renal replacement therapy, as is needed.
- ECMO facilitation - Ability to facilitate, co-ordinate and implement ECMO support through selection of appropriate mode of support, equipment acquisition, assimilation and utilisation, both supervised and unsupervised, on neonatal, infant and paediatric patients, at the point-of-care
- To co-ordinate and provide after-hours and weekend ECMO consultative and surgical cover for emergency procedures e.g. replacing clotted circuits, institution of extra-corporeal support and weaning, termination of ECMO and decannulation
- To assist with trouble-shooting on ECMO. To support non-cardiac procedures required during ECMO support
- ECMO transport - To facilitate, co-ordinate and conduct the above in-patient retrieval from referral facilities
- To co-ordinate the retrieval process in conjunction with an extended multi-disciplinary team, including transport and emergency services, referral institutions and clinicians in order to facilitate a safe and efficient patient experience
- To act as liaison between transferring institution, transferring services and Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital to improve efficiency and patient transferal.
- To debrief the retrieval team post hoc in order to continuously improve team structure and role of members, improve efficiency and identify and address safety concerns
- Surgery - To be actively involved in pre-operative patient workup and the surgical management plan, postoperative evaluation and care of all patients undergoing neonatal, infant and paediatric congenital heart and thoracic surgery.
- To actively assist and perform congenital cardiac and thoracic surgical procedures under the supervision of a senior surgeon as determined by competency and ability.
- To provide after-hours and weekend cardiothoracic surgical consultative and surgical cover, e.g. to facilitate, co-ordinate and conduct the emergency institution of cardiopulmonary bypass or ECMO, chest drain insertion/removal, emergency re-exploration for bleeding or tamponade; pacing wire removal, re-exploration for wound sepsis or elective re-look or delayed sternal closure procedures
- Remote site surgery - To facilitate and co-ordinate off-site minor procedures as part of a collaborative team effort, e.g. patent ductus arteriosus ligation

- Systems thinking - Is able to recognise systems and processes within the ICU and operating theatre environment that affects patient experience and improve efficiency and patient throughout.
- To support leadership in its efforts to meet and sustain management policies of the department and hospital, and complying with departmental policies and procedures
- Critical thinking - Demonstrates strong critical thinking skills by making appropriate clinical decisions, rapidly prioritising planned and unplanned events, and proactively addresses actual and potential problems
- Clinical inquiry - Uses clinical inquiry and performance review to improve. Questions appropriateness of policies, guidelines and procedures within our local environment.
- Questions current practice. Seeks advice, resources or information to improve processes and compares end contrasts possible alternatives.
- Assist with development of competency in peers formally through didactic teaching, in-service training (wet-labs and simulation) and informally during bed-side interaction.
- Uses self-appraisal performance review, including goal-setting for assurance of competence and professional development to promote safe and ethical practice.
- Facilitates learning for members of the healthcare team. Involved in auditing and quality improvement programmes.
- Collaboration- Encourages shared decision making and pro-actively seeks the contribution of the interdisciplinary team in team meeting and discussions regarding patient care and practice issues.
- Research – To collect data prospectively to enable research on case and institutional experience in an ethical and scientifically sound manner.
- To encourage fields of individual enquiry and create research protocols based on experience gained.
- To assist peers by providing data to facilitate research projects.
- To submit data to and co-ordinate involvement with greater ECMO community at large through sustained interaction with the ELSO Registry (Extracorporeal Life Support Organisation).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria are requested to e-mail a detailed CV to Lorraine at vacancies@nmch.org.za

NB- Please state the reference number relevant to the position applied for. Applications without reference number will NOT be considered.

Please note that should you not hear from us within 4 weeks of your application, it would mean that your application has been unsuccessful.