

## aDSM Consultant – TREAT TB Philippines

Vital Strategies

### TREAT TB

Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for TB (TREAT TB) is a USAID-funded Initiative that seeks to contribute to new knowledge through field evaluations of diagnostic tools, clinical trials of priority research questions, and targeted operational research benefitting global, regional, and country TB control efforts. Since 2008, The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) and its affiliate Vital Strategies have been implementing TREAT TB under a cooperative agreement with the United States Agency for International Development.

### Vital Strategies

Vital Strategies is an independent affiliate of The Union, which has regional and country offices in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America, and South-East Asia. Vital Strategies provides expertise in project implementation and management, epidemiology and surveillance, and other core public health capacities on a variety of global health challenges, including tuberculosis.

For more information about Vital Strategies and The Union, visit [www.theunion.org](http://www.theunion.org).

### The Position

Vital Strategies is seeking qualified candidates for the position of **aDSM Consultant – TREAT TB Philippines**. Applicants should be Filipino nationals or permitted to work in the Philippines.

### Background

TREAT TB is implementing a multi-year project in the Philippines to support the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) in applying international guidelines and research results to guide implementation of new treatment regimens for multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB). The project's objective will be to support the NTP's scale up under programmatic conditions of the 9-month regimen for MDR-TB (SSTR). Activities will include clinical training related to the SSTR, technical assistance, analysis of data from early cohorts, support for programmatic and active drug safety monitoring (aDSM), and capacity building in operational research focused on MDR-TB.

### Overall Role:

A consultant is required to support active TB drug-safety monitoring and management (aDSM) within the NTP. The primary focus of the Consultant will be identification, management and recording of adverse drug events, and use of aDSM data by clinicians and the NTP to improve clinical outcomes; the secondary focus is to ensure regulatory reporting of serious adverse effects via the Pharmacovigilance Monitoring System (PViMS). The NTP is at early stages of assessing their strategy with respect to aDSM and, therefore, the consultant will be expected to support a monitoring and evaluation team with design, implementation, and monitoring. The consultant will provide

technical input to the M&E Coordinator in connection with development of a monitoring plan, provide supportive supervision to clinicians and nurses on management of adverse events, ensure appropriate and accurate recording and reporting of AE data, and provide feedback based on analysis of adverse events data. The Consultant will be physically located at the offices of the Philippines NTP, under the co-supervision of NTP leadership and Vital Strategies. The Consultant will interface between the NTP, TREAT TB partners, Vital Strategies, and other critical stakeholders.

### **Specific Duties:**

Under the guidance of the NTP and TREAT TB managers, the Consultant will:

- Support the development of an aDSM strategy, including identification of AEs of interest and information to be collected
- Support development of the NTP's aDSM monitoring and supervision plan, and integration with the overall programmatic monitoring and evaluation plan
- Provide technical assistance in connection with the development of appropriate programmatic responses to challenges identified by aDSM data and provide feedback to sites during monitoring visits to ensure proper clinical management of AEs and recording and reporting of data
- Build capacity within the NTP to monitor and respond to aDSM data
- Develop and integrate data collection tools and systems for the NTP
- Develop a site-level reporting calendar
- Develop a calendar of monitoring and supervision site visits
- Develop a standard agenda for site monitoring visits
- Undertake monitoring and supervision visits to sites implementing the SSTR
- Collaborate with partners, including Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS) in connection with development of NTP data collection and analysis tools to ensure compatibility with the country's pharmacovigilance system
- Ensure reporting of aDSM data to the NTP in accordance with monitoring plan
- Conduct analysis of aDSM data and support generation of regular reports
- Communicate regularly with and report on aDSM activities to NTP officials and TREAT TB

### **Qualifications and skill set:**

#### ***Required***

- Post-graduate degree in relevant field (medicine or nursing) from a recognized university
- At least 3 years of clinical experience managing MDR-TB
- Demonstrated experience with planning and implementing supportive supervision plans
- English language proficiency
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office suite (MS word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Strong organizational, and verbal and written communication skills
- Willingness and ability to travel within the Philippines

#### ***Desirable***

- Master of public health degree

- At least 1 year of experience monitoring and evaluating public health programs
- Demonstrated experience with data analysis
- Prior experience working with or in the Philippines NTP
- Prior experience with aDSM

**Duration:**

The contract will be until 30 September 2017, and may be renewed.

**Compensation:**

Compensation will be based on experience and earnings history

**How to apply:**

Please send a CV, cover letter, and fee expectations (including historical data with respect to past consultancy fees earned), to Dr. Leena Patel at [lpatel@vitalstrategies.org](mailto:lpatel@vitalstrategies.org) quoting reference “**aDSM Consultant – TREAT TB Philippines**” with the position applied for in the subject line.

Closing date for applications: **20 June 2017**, unless a suitable candidate is identified earlier. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.