



## **NURSE**

### **CARDIAC SURGERY OR CARDIOVASCULAR DEPT.**

Countries: SUDAN

Projects: Salam Centre for Cardiac Surgery - Khartoum (SUD)

Type of contract: paid - 6 months

Language required: English

This role requires complete autonomy in managing the care of cardiopathic patients on the ward and/or in the Intensive Care Unit (or High Dependency Unit).

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### **BACKGROUND AND ORGANISATION OF WORK**

The International Cardiac Surgery Nurse supervises, teaches and works alongside the national staff colleagues providing treatment and care for both adult and paediatric patients at all stages of their assessment, admission and stay, both pre- and post-operatively. Along with the other members of the nursing team, you will collaborate with the various medical specialists (cardiac surgeons, cardiologists, cardiac anaesthetists, Internal Medicine specialist) present in the Centre and facilitate the transmission of information relevant to nursing care to the national staff.

A team leader or head nurse who will explain the nursing protocols in use and the level of training and autonomy of the local personnel coordinates the work.

The international nurse is responsible to the Medical Coordinator, who is in charge of the management and organisation of the project.

The departments in which you may be required to work:

**CARDIOLOGY CLINIC:** 3 examination rooms equipped for the diagnosis of patients identified in triage, the management of patients on the waiting list, and post-operative follow-up;

**WARD:** 32-bed ward and 16-bed High Dependency Unit;

**INTENSIVE CARE UNIT:** 15 fully equipped beds (2 isolation beds);

**CATH LAB:** 1 cardiac catheterisation laboratory fully equipped to carry out diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

Assignment to a department will be made on the basis of your specific skills and professional experience. The workload and rota of the international nurses are variable, depending on the needs and organisational set-up of the hospital; you will usually have at least one day off a week.

However patient care must be guaranteed 24/7 on the ward and in ICU.

## **DUTIES AND REPONSIBILITIES**

All EMERGENCY international personnel are expected to know and follow the hospital admissions criteria, guide lines, protocols, and the diagnosis and treatment standards in use in the Centre, and to ensure the correct compilation of clinical records and statistics in both computer and paper formats.

The main duties and responsibilities of the international cardiovascular nurse:

### **WARD**

- Care of patients at all stages of their diagnosis and treatment, both for surgical procedures and post-procedure in Cath Lab;
- In the High Dependency Unit, care of critical patients who are not in need of intensive care, or those discharged from ICU.

### **INTENSIVE CARE UNIT**

- Care of patients with acute decompensated heart failure (pre-op);
- Post-op care of cardiac surgery patients starting from day 0;
- Care of patients with post-op complications: prolonged mechanical ventilation, intra aortic balloon pump, continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT).

### **CATH LAB**

- Preparation and care of patients undergoing diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.

Furthermore, in all departments:

- Correct application and supervision of the nursing protocols, including those regarding hygiene and sterility;
- Correct compilation and maintenance of nursing notes, clinical files and patient records;
- To assist with clinical research and record keeping as required by the scientific programmes of the specialist sector of the Medical Division of EMERGENCY.

## **MANAGEMENT AND ORDERS OF STOCKS AND SUPPLIES**

The international nurse, in collaboration with the team leader, is responsible for checking that levels of supplies of materials and equipment are always adequate in terms of quantity and quality, participates in ordering supplies from the hospital pharmacy, and collaborates with the team leader and medical coordinator in sending orders for periodic re-stocking.

## **MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING OF LOCAL PERSONNEL**

Clinical activities and patient care are always carried out alongside and in collaboration with local personnel, who thus benefit from training in the field. There is also provision for more

specific teaching activities, managed by the international specialists, in accordance with the individual needs of each hospital.

As there is a high turnover of national nursing staff, there will be a particular need to provide training to these personnel during this mission.

### **CASELOAD AND EQUIPMENT**

"SALAM" CENTRE FOR CARDIAC SURGERY - Khartoum, Sudan

Patients with every type of congenital and acquired heart disease are present at the Centre.

The caseload is extremely varied. Most patients presenting at the hospital are seriously compromised: the main cause of this is that the health care system and therefore treatment - both in the country and in the region as a whole - is fee-paying.

Since 2007 the Salam Centre has been the only completely free Cardiac Surgery centre in the region. The Centre forms the scientific and operational nucleus of a web of paediatric clinics situated in neighbouring countries, which also carry out screening and follow-up for both adult and paediatric cardiac surgery patients.

The most common diseases treated are valvular cardiopathy of rheumatic origin (RHD - Rheumatic Heart Disease), congenital heart disease suitable for surgical treatment, and ischaemic heart disease in the non-acute phase; over the past five years of activity (2008 - 2012) around 55% of patients admitted have been under 25 years of age.

The wards are fully equipped for the management of cardiac surgery patients: 48 beds, of which 16 are high dependency beds. The high dependency beds are equipped with multiparameter vital signs monitors with the option of invasive blood pressure (IBP) monitoring; oxygen supply and suction; syringe and infusion pumps. There are emergency trolleys equipped with defibrillators, emergency drugs and apparatus in accordance with standardised guidelines.

In Intensive Care there are 15 beds for post-operative patients or patients who are severely decompensated. All the beds are equipped with monitors, ventilators with various ventilation settings and humidification systems; equipment is available for continuous renal replacement therapies, intra aortic balloon pump, pace making, nitrous oxide supply.

Due to the advanced level of work carried out, the equipment available and technical, architectural and managerial innovations, the Salam Centre for Cardiac Surgery is considered a centre of excellence at an international level.

### **GUIDELINES, PROTOCOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

Further information on the guidelines, protocols and clinical services relevant to the post along with details of the instruments and equipment available will be provided at interview and during the period of preparation for the mission.

The general requirements and conditions are the same as for other international personnel roles.

### **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

- Nursing Degree (or equivalent Diploma) and current registration on the professional nursing register of your country of residence;
- At least 3 years' continuous professional experience in one or more Cardiovascular departments (e.g. Cardiac Surgery, Cardiology, Cardiac ICU, Cardiac HDU, Coronary Care Unit, Cath Lab).

### **REQUIRED AVAILABILITY**

6 months' overseas stay including a period of leave to be taken at the end of the mission in agreement with the coordinator.

### **TO APPLY**

If you are interested in working with EMERGENCY in a medical capacity and you fulfil the general and specific requirements set out on the website please send your CV and cover letter (specifying in the subject which position you are applying for) to:

**[RECRUITMENT@EMERGENCYUK.ORG](mailto:RECRUITMENT@EMERGENCYUK.ORG)**

During the selection process you will be evaluated on the basis of your CV, cover letter questionnaire, references and individual interview.