

UNC Gillings Global Quality Graduate Internship

The goal of this internship is to support one or more of multiple projects focused on assessing and improving quality of care globally. The following are the current projects, but may change:

1. Support of the leadership for the WHO National Quality Policy and Strategy Project (NQPS) which is a five-year initiative for guiding and informing the efforts of low and middle-income countries in developing national policies and strategy for health care quality. This project is working within the context of health systems strengthening and the pursuit of universal health coverage within constraint of resources. The intern will work directly with Sheila Leatherman, Research Professor in Health Policy and Management, through Ms. Leatherman's role as part of the leadership team for the WHO-ISQua project for National Quality Policy and Strategies in LMICs.
2. Quality in Extreme Adversity study: focused on understanding the major challenges for improving quality of care for settings of "extreme adversity" including migrating populations (refugees and displaced persons), fragile/failed states and complex emergencies. This involves an initial period of data gathering (lit search and interviews) followed by engagement with experts to develop a framework for identifying what quality measurement and improvement methods can be used in extreme adversity settings
3. Support of individual engagement with nations seeking technical assistance for the development and implementation of national quality strategies.

Background

The design, development and execution of national quality policy and strategies is a growing priority worldwide as countries strive to systemically improve the performance of health care systems. Wide scale and reliable improvement of health care quality in lower resourced settings remains a nascent field with critical unmet needs for expertise, content and strategic advice. Across the globe, countries are seeking advice and technical assistance to develop quality strategies.

Objectives

1. To raise awareness, knowledge, and skills concerning health care quality in LMIC.
2. To provide guidance for development of national health care quality policy and strategic plans.
3. To outline the key processes, and provide tools, for the planning and implementation of national quality strategies.
4. To contribute to knowledge and tools for quality assessment and improvement in settings of "extreme adversity"

Possible work streams

1. Situational or gap analysis; what is most needed by countries in LMIC
2. Contributions to the evidence base for what works to improve quality of care in diverse environments
3. Development of tools and resources for national quality policy and strategic plans for;
 - Priority setting to reduce avoidable mortality and morbidity
 - Policy formulation and regulation
 - Activities for Improved Service Delivery; safe, effective and patient centered care
 - Health Information systems; data recording, quality measurement and reporting
 - Quality assurance and control Mechanisms
 - Performance Monitoring and Evaluation

Internship Support

Stipend of \$2,500

15-20 hours a week over 6 months (flexible): exact start date can be negotiated

How to Apply:

Please complete the [online application](#), which includes:

Questions you will need to respond to

- How do you see this internship fitting in with your career plans?
- Summarize your previous research/program experience (domestic and international).
- Specify what skills you have that apply to the internship.

Supporting documents, you will need to upload

- Resume or CV
- Letter of Interest
- Unofficial Transcript