Position title: Enhancing cancer clinical database use for research capacity building and output research fellow

Number of positions: 1

Short project description: Zambia, a Sub-Saharan African country, has one comprehensive cancer center serving approximately 17 million people. The national cancer Diseases Hospital (CDH) was established in 2006 and has treated over 20,000 new cancer cases. The services offered are radiotherapy (including advanced brachytherapy techniques), chemotherapy, pediatric, surgical, gynecologic oncology, palliative care services, nutritional rehabilitation and physiotherapy. The center has 252-bed inpatient facilities and an operating theatre.

The most common cancers seen at CDH are cervical cancer followed by breast and prostate cancers. Ninety percent of the patients present with locally advanced or metastatic disease. Although the center has comprehensive services, the burden ratio of patients to resources is high translating into long waiting times for treatment as well as shortages of essential chemotherapy drugs due to the economic disposition of the country. These challenging factors may have an impact on disease outcomes that are usually treated with guidelines generated on evidence based on well-resourced environments. Therefore, it is important to explore the local data.

A retrospective-prospective database to capture high quality data for breast and cervix cancer patients treated at CDH was recently established. We are offering a summer fellowship to work with the research unit at CDH to carry out data validation and clean up for analytic purposes.

Roles and responsibilities of student:
- Participate in the processes of data validation and clean up
- Participate in monthly research brainstorming meetings

Expected outputs: 1 manuscript

Skills and experience required:
- Knowledge in research methods
- Good Clinical Practice certification
- Knowledge in basic statistics an added advantage

Supervisor: Dr. Dorothy C. Lombe

Minimum duration: 10 weeks. Virtual based internship preferred.

How to apply: If you are applying to multiple positions, please do not apply until you have ALL cover letters written and ready to upload for each position.
1. Fill-out the [online application form](#) and upload the materials below to the form:

   - Cover letter for *each position* you are applying (*If applying to multiple positions, please write a cover letter for each position*)
   - CV/Resume (*If applying to multiple positions, only upload it once*)

2. Faculty Evaluation: Please identify a UNC Gillings faculty member who is able to evaluate you on the specific skills listed in the position description(s) you are applying for. Please tell the faculty member which position(s) you are applying for. *If applying to multiple positions, the faculty member only needs to complete one evaluation form (they will evaluate you for all your positions on one form).*

   - Send the Faculty Evaluation Form link to the faculty member: [https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DztLU8azN6rQkB](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DztLU8azN6rQkB)

**Questions?**

Please contact Naya Villarreal, MPH, Global Health Associate Director at [naya@unc.edu](mailto:naya@unc.edu).