

## Zambia Hub 2024 – CIDRZ Intern

### Applications Due Wednesday, March 27, 2024

**How to apply:**

All application materials are due Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

1. Send the materials below as attachments to [globalsolutions@unc.edu](mailto:globalsolutions@unc.edu).
  - o Cover letter for *the position*
  - o CV/Resume
  
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 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\\_e3AaoOn8aIN6h94](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e3AaoOn8aIN6h94)

Questions? Please email Naya Villarreal at [naya@unc.edu](mailto:naya@unc.edu).

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<b>Name of Agency</b>	Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ)
<b>Agency Address</b>	Plot # 34620, PO Box 34681 Lusaka, ZAMBIA
<b>Type of Agency</b> (Include brief description of agency's main goals and programs) <b>Include web site if available</b>	With an annual budget of over \$70 million USD, CIDRZ is the largest non-profit health care organization in Zambia and one of the largest U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) recipients in all of sub-Saharan Africa. CIDRZ's mission is to improve access to quality healthcare in Zambia through capacity development, exceptional implementation research, and impactful, sustainable public health programmes. CIDRZ seeks to fulfil its mission by employing over 1000 people, the vast majority of whom are Zambian, to address a breadth of pressing health issues relevant to Zambia and sub-Saharan Africa, including infectious disease-related problems such as tuberculosis and HIV, as well as other problems relevant to the Zambian health care system. Learn more at: <a href="http://www.cidrz.org">http://www.cidrz.org</a> .
<b>Name and Title of Supervisor</b>	Michael Herce, MD, MPH, MSc; Assistant Professor & Director of Implementation Science
<b>Supervisor Experience and Education</b> (Provide your professional background and describe any experience working with students)	Dr. Herce is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of North Carolina (UNC), and Director of Implementation Science at the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ).

	<p>Dr. Herce completed his residency in Global Health Equity and Internal Medicine at Brigham &amp; Women’s Hospital / Harvard Medical School and sub-specialty training in Infectious Diseases at UNC. He received his MD <i>cum laude</i> from the Yale School of Medicine, his MSc in Clinical Research from UNC, and his MPH in Global Health from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Herce’s research interests broadly relate to global health equity, clinical and public health program implementation, and issues of access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for key and marginalized populations in sub-Saharan Africa. His on-going research and service delivery work is funded by the NHLBI, Fogarty, NICHD, and PEPFAR/CDC.</p> <p>Dr. Herce has over 10 years’ experience serving as the primary international site research and practicum mentor for medical and public health students from numerous universities, including the University of Toronto Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Harvard University, University of Sydney, University of North Carolina, the University of Colorado, the University of Michigan, and Mayo Medical School. He has supervised Fogarty fellows conducting doctoral research at CIDRZ and served on Epidemiology dissertation committees for PhD students at UNC and the University of Washington. Under his supervision, his students have produced first-author abstracts and publications featured in prominent international conferences and biomedical journals such as <i>The Lancet HIV</i> and International AIDS Conference and independently secured global health fellowship funding and placements with the Fulbright Scholars Program and the Fogarty International Centre of the US National Institutes of Health.</p>
<b>Supervisor contact information</b> (email, phone)	<a href="mailto:Michael.herce@cidrz.org">Michael.herce@cidrz.org</a> +260 (0) 96 222 0145 <a href="mailto:Michael_herce@med.unc.edu">Michael_herce@med.unc.edu</a> +1.919.904.5857
<b>Preference for contact</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Phone
<b>Ideal start date</b>	20 May, 2024
<b>Ideal end date</b>	9 August, 2024 (start and end dates flexible—looking for 12 week commitment)
<b>Paid work/Compensation for work</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Range of funding available</b> (hourly or total)	\$4K Gillings Global Travel Award; Modest CIDRZ internship stipend (~\$120 per month)
<b>Opportunity to handle quantitative data</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Description of the Proposed Practicum</b> (Describe the work experience and/or project: context, health problem, population)	<b>Background to Project</b> Despite increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly among people living with HIV (PLHIV), national health systems have limited capacity to address these morbid conditions. We developed an evidence-based intervention based on the WHO Package of Essential NCD interventions, called ‘TASKPEN,’ that applies a multi-faceted implementation strategy to integrate care for HIV and common

	<p>cardiometabolic NCDs like hypertension through task-sharing, practice facilitation, and health system resourcing.</p> <p>The TASKPEN study is a NIH-funded 5 year project, currently in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, that is evaluating the TASKPEN package according to clinical and implementation outcomes in an ongoing hybrid effectiveness-implementation stepped wedge trial in 12 government health facilities in Lusaka, Zambia.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed Practicum</u></b></p> <p>The practicum student will be based in the Implementation Science Unit at CIDRZ and will become an integral member of the TASKPEN study team for the entire duration of their placement, working shoulder-to-shoulder with health facility and study staff. Students will have the unique opportunity to take an active role on the study under the supervision of the Multiple Principal Investigators, and will gain experience in quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research, and public health practice.</p> <p>Principally, the student will assist with supporting research sites with delivery of the TASKPEN intervention, supporting quality improvement and data use at the sites to ensure sites are providing integrated hypertension, diabetes, and dyslipidemia screening and treatment to people living with HIV under the PEPFAR-supported HIV treatment program in Zambia, and will work with study staff on qualitative and mixed methods data collection, data management, and data analysis.</p>
<p><b>Benefit to student</b> (How will this placement be of interest and benefit to a student?)</p>	<p>This is a practicum with several benefits to students. In particular the successful student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an opportunity to work alongside both Zambian and expatriate staff at the vanguard of public health programming and implementation science research in sub-Saharan Africa.</li> <li>• Gain an in-depth understanding of “real world” public health conditions in general clinics in urban sub-Saharan African settings.</li> <li>• See how to implement a research project in a resource-constrained setting.</li> <li>• Gain valuable hands on experience in the research process with a major focus quantitative and qualitative data management.</li> <li>• Have the chance to contribute towards answering questions that will advance our understanding of how best to integrate care and treatment for NCDs into existing HIV treatment programs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Required skills and experience</b></p>	<p>Prior experience working on a research study; prior experience working and/or living in a low- or middle-income country; humility and a willingness to learn from others; flexibility in the face of a challenging and often fluid work environment.</p>

<p><b>Expected Outputs</b> (Practicum experience must yield at least two student-generated, practical work products (e.g., project plans, grant proposals, training manuals or lesson plans, surveys, memos, videos, podcasts, presentations, spreadsheets, websites, photos with accompanying explanatory text, or other digital artifacts of learning), produced for the practicum site's use and benefit, that demonstrate attainment of five <a href="#">CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies</a>)</p>	<p>The student will produce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A database for capturing and managing trial mixed methods and costing data in REDCap (or similar system).</li> <li>• A dashboard in Power BI, Excel, or similar for monitoring collection and quality control of TASKPEN trial costing and mixed methods data and/OR a dashboard in Power BI, Excel, or similar for monitoring site-level process indicators for integration of NCD screening and treatment into the national HIV program at CIDRZ-supported PEPFAR sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Roles and Responsibilities of student</b></p>	<p>The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the qualitative and costing teams with data management and analysis.</li> <li>• Support practice facilitation teams with preparing dashboards and QI tools.</li> <li>• Support the data manager with data cleaning and coding.</li> <li>• Support site-level logistics for intervention delivery including ensuring necessary forms, tools, and equipment are available on site.</li> </ul>