

## Vaccine Safety Pharmacist

Windhoek, Namibia

Akros is a cutting-edge organization that establishes data-driven systems that improve the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged communities. We pride ourselves in our ground-level knowledge of the health systems where we work, and our ability to provide novel, lasting solutions implemented in developing regions.

### Background

Akros Research is supporting a 3-year program, funded by the Mastercard Foundation and in partnership with the Africa CDC, to increase Covid19 vaccine uptake in Africa. This initiative, called Saving Lives and Livelihoods, includes multiple components and partners working to procure, distribute, and promote vaccine uptake in a safe manner. As a part of this consortium Akros Research will support Africa Union member states in the Eastern and Southern African regions to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance systems.

### Specific Responsibilities

*AEFI surveillance systems strengthening and coordination of vaccine safety regulatory functions:*

- Collaborate with the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) and partners in the training of healthcare workers in adverse event following immunization (AEFI) surveillance
- Coordinate with the EPI and Health Information Systems (HIS) in the transfer of AEFI reports to the TIPC
- Manage the vaccine safety email, respond to queries and follow up with the reporters
- Monitor and extract data from the DHIS2 tracker
- Management of the AEFI data, including entry into the VigiFlow database and analysis
- Provide national level support on AEFI case investigation to the regions and districts in collaboration with EPI
- Collaborate with EPI in the preparation of relevant documents for serious, cluster or AEFI of concern for the committee's review
- Serve as a secretary to the AEFI committee
- Implement any decisions or directives of the AEFI committee and the NMRC related to vaccines
- Liaise with the relevant stakeholders including marketing authorisation holders on vaccine related issues
- Participate in the pre and post-marketing review of vaccine clinical data, risk management plans, package insert and product variations
- Facilitate the feedback sharing with all relevant stakeholders
- Participate in the review of AEFI SOPs and Guidelines
- Monitor stakeholders' compliance with the AEFI guideline

*Report writing:*



- Prepare and contribute to Quarterly and Sub-divisional annual reports
- Prepare AEFI feedback reports
- Prepare the minutes of the AEFI committee

#### *Planning and budgeting*

- Carry out annual planning and budgeting necessary for activities related to the implementation of his/her activities, in coordination with the supervisor
- Ensure that planned activities are carried out within budget limits

#### *General*

- Other official duties assigned by the supervisor

#### **Minimum Qualifications**

- Bachelors of Pharmacy degree
- Registration as a Pharmacist with the Pharmacy Council of Namibia
- At least 3 years of relevant experience in medicine safety surveillance **or** regulatory affairs or public health

#### **Additional Requirements**

- A relevant Master's degree is an added advantage
- Experience working with the Ministry of Health & Social Services, donors, Regional and Districts structures
- Good understanding of pharmacovigilance and vaccine safety surveillance
- Acquaintance with the Medicines and Related Substance Control Act, 2003 (Act No. 13 of 2003) and its Regulations

#### **Location and Term**

This is a 3-year position, renewable annually located in Windhoek Namibia.

#### **Reporting**

This position will report to the Senior Pharmacist in the Therapeutic Information and Pharmacovigilance Centre (TIPC), under the Pharmaceutical Control and Inspection sub-division of the National Drug Control and Coordination - Namibia Medicines Regulatory Council (NMRC).

#### **Application Instructions**

Submit applications by September 30th. Candidates are encouraged to apply early. To apply, please submit a cover letter and CV with references to [careers@akros.com](mailto:careers@akros.com) with "Application: SLL Programme – Namibia Vaccine Safety Pharmacist" as the email's subject line.

