

Apply today and you could be...

An Emergency Medic at the International Hospital in Kampala, Uganda

What's the context and purpose of the role?

Over the past 15 years, Uganda has enjoyed stable government, economic growth and rapid social development. However, due to numerous resource constraints the country remains one of the 25 poorest in the world, with public services, such as health care lacking in accessibility and quality. The International Hospital in Kampala was opened in January 2005 with 200 beds. The hospital is part of the International Medical Group (IMG), which has a strong charitable side, providing free health care to disadvantaged groups, such as orphanages and internally displaced people. As an Emergency Medic in the International Hospital, you'll help develop the hospital's ability to deal with emergency admissions, especially from road traffic accidents, a major cause of trauma in Uganda. You'll train colleagues in order to build their skills in emergency medicine, ensuring that more lives can be saved with better care.

What does the role involve?

- Working with Ugandan colleagues and hospital management to establish and develop emergency services
- Setting up assessment and triage systems for unplanned admissions
- Providing on-the-job training in emergency medicine to improve patient care
- Build expertise of staff in resuscitation and care of the acutely ill patient
- Developing links and networks for cross-organisational learning and sharing of information and skills



What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll need to be a registered doctor with at least 3 years' experience in acute and emergency medicine, and ideally some experience in training or mentoring others. The confidence in your skills to teach colleagues and develop services is vital. You'll also need great inter-personal and communication skills as you'll be working closely together with your colleagues. Flexibility, patience and the willingness to learn the local language, Luganda, would be an asset, as it will allow you to better communicate with patients and socialise with colleagues and new friends. A positive attitude and good sense of humour always help to immerse yourself in the local culture and make the most of your volunteering experience!

And the rest...

Landlocked Uganda lies across the Equator, bordering Tanzania, Sudan, Congo, Kenya and Rwanda. It's a naturally fertile country with 25% of its area covered in rivers, lakes and swamps. Uganda's climate is pleasant and comfortable. You'll be based in the capital city Kampala, which is less crowded than many other African cities. There's a friendly and social atmosphere with a real mix of people from all social, religious and tribal groups. On the social scene, the city has a variety of good restaurants, bars and cinemas so you shouldn't have trouble keeping busy in your free time!

We'll ask you to commit to 12 months to make a sustainable contribution to our development goals. In return, we'll give you comprehensive financial, personal and professional support. We'll provide you with extensive training before your placement, and our financial package includes a local salary, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more. When you return to your home country, we'll help you to resettle and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends. www.vso.org.uk/volunteering