EPIDEMIOLOGIST

DEPARTMENT/UNIT Institute of Vector-Borne Disease

FACULTY/DIVISION Provost and Senior Vice-President

CLASSIFICATION HEW Level 8

WORK LOCATION Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT
There’s a certain feeling you get from working at Monash University. It’s the feeling that you’re a part of something special. Something significant. So if you’re looking for the next chapter in your career, it’s here. You’ll be given the opportunity to challenge yourself, build on your skills, and make a significant contribution to a workplace that’s filled with energetic and inspiring people. Talent thrives here - and so do truly satisfying careers. Discover more at www.monash.edu.

The Provost & Senior Vice-President is the Chief Academic Officer of the University and is responsible for: "setting the university's academic strategy and priorities with view to improving the education and research performance of the university;" oversight of faculties, academic related portfolios and university-wide centres and institutes" oversight of academic staffing including recruitment, development, reward and recognition, policies and procedures;" strategic leadership for the delivery of academic programs; identifying and cultivating interdisciplinary areas of excellence and collaboration.

The Institute of Vector-borne Disease (IVBD) falls within the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice-President. The primary purpose of the Institute is to spearhead the University’s research efforts in eliminating diseases such as dengue fever and Zika. The Institute operates the World Mosquito Program (WMP), an international collaborative research program designed to prevent the transmission of arboviral diseases threatening the health of people living in tropical and subtropical regions and aims to improve global health whilst significantly reducing the financial burden on local health systems in these regions.

POSITION PURPOSE
The Epidemiologist provides key support to all aspects of the epidemiological activities for the World Mosquito Program (WMP), with particular responsibility for WMP’s Western Pacific project sites in Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati and New Caledonia. This includes supporting the Pacific teams in the collation, visualisation and reporting of arboviral disease surveillance data, coordinating an independent evaluation of WMP’s activities in these sites, and supporting the transition from project implementation phase to long-term epidemiological monitoring. The position will also assist other members of the Impact Assessment team with the coordination of epidemiological field studies in multiple international sites, and will provide statistical support within the Impact Assessment team and to other WMP staff on an ad hoc basis.
The incumbent will play a key role in ensuring high quality and comparable epidemiological data is collected across the study sites. This will involve close working relationships with the project teams in the Pacific and other project sites, including some international travel. Preparation of data for routine reports and peer-reviewed publication will be another key responsibility of this position. Prior field experience working in Pacific communities or another international setting will be an advantage.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to the Epidemiology Manager, who will provide broad direction

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** Not applicable

**Financial Delegation:** Not applicable

**Budget Responsibilities:** Not applicable

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Coordinate WMP’s epidemiological activities in Pacific project sites to monitor the public health impact of Wolbachia deployments, including supporting local teams in collation, visualisation and reporting of arboviral disease surveillance data

2. Provide statistical support within the impact assessment team and to other WMP staff for data analysis, sample size calculations, and the preparation of results for reports, presentations and publications

3. Develop study protocols, data collection tools and analysis plans for epidemiological studies at Australian and international project sites

4. Support to the implementation of epidemiologic investigations to determine the impact of large scale Wolbachia deployments on dengue transmission in international project sites, including liaising with external scientists and key stakeholders

5. Collate and clean data from international sites for project-wide reporting and analysis, and to ensure comparability of data across sites

6. Support the implementation and maintenance of data management systems for program and project activities, including project related databases, field data collection tools and geographic information systems (GIS)

7. Ensure adherence to relevant ethical and privacy requirements around data sharing and storage and compliance with all regulatory bodies

8. Assist in preparing reports and other documentation for the ethics committee and funding bodies.

9. Build effective relationships with other project staff, country teams, and key stakeholders and through these networks support the implementation of the studies and ensure quality and consistency of the data collected

### KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

**Education/Qualifications**

1. The appointee will have:
   - Postgraduate qualifications or progression toward postgraduate qualifications in epidemiology or another relevant field and extensive relevant experience; or
   - an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training

**Knowledge and Skills**

2. Experience in epidemiological research and analysis, including development and implementation of study protocols and data collection tools
3. Familiarity with the use and limitations of routine disease surveillance data in public health practice or public health research

4. High-level quantitative, analytical and investigative skills, the ability to collate, clean and manipulate large datasets, and to analyse and interpret data

5. Expertise in biostatistics, including sampling methods and sample size calculations

6. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to write scientifically, contribute to the preparation of reports and publications, and communicate clearly and effectively with international collaborators

7. Well-developed planning and organisational skills, with the ability to work both independently and as an effective team member, prioritise multiple tasks, set and meet deadlines, and respond rapidly as needs change or evolve

8. Experience working in an international environment, and within a multi-disciplinary team

9. Highly developed computer literacy with familiarity across the Microsoft Office packages, database and statistical analysis software

10. Proven ability to adhere strictly to protocol and working guidelines and a thorough understanding of human research ethics principles

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- Travel will be required (e.g. to project sites overseas)
- Some out-of-hours work may be required to accommodate periods of increased workload

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Ensure you are aware of and adhere to legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including: Equal Employment Opportunity, supporting equity and fairness; Occupational Health and Safety, supporting a safe workplace; Conflict of Interest (including Conflict of Interest in Research); Paid Outside Work; Privacy; Research Conduct; and Staff/Student Relationships.