



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title: Clean Cut Fellow

Location: Ethiopia, Attat Hospital or surroundings

About us: Global nonprofit making surgery and anesthesia safer worldwide

Reporting to: Global Clean Cut Clinical lead

Key relationships: Global Clinical Director; Clinical team; program team colleagues; communications & development staff and Attat Hospital team

Time commitment: 3 days per week

Duration: 9 months (effective from September 9th)

1. Lifebox Overview

About Lifebox Lifebox is a growing and dynamic global health non-profit dedicated to saving lives by improving the safety of surgery and anesthesia around the world. Lifebox works to increase anesthesia safety, reduce surgical infection rates, and strengthen operating room teamwork through tools, training, and partnerships. Since its founding in 2011 by Dr. Atul Gawande and a group of surgeons and anesthesiologists, Lifebox has worked in 116 countries and trained more than 14,000 healthcare providers. Lifebox is registered as a charity in Ethiopia, the UK, US, with just over 50 staff and affiliated faculty, and an operating budget of nearly \$4M supported by individual donors and foundations. To learn more, see: www.lifebox.org

2. Clean Cut Program

Surgical site infections represent a major cause of postoperative morbidity and mortality particularly in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). The World Health Organization (WHO) Safe Surgery Checklist has been shown to substantially reduce perioperative complications and mortality in many settings, including LMICs. Many of the items on the WHO Checklist are related to reducing risk of infection; Lifebox aims to improve adherence to these measures to reduce postoperative infectious complications in LMICs.

Lifebox's Clean Cut program launched in 2015, is an intensive quality improvement program based on the WHO-checklist. The program aims to reduce infectious complications from surgery by improving adherence to evidence-based perioperative standards. The standards present in the WHO Safe Surgery Checklist include appropriate administration of antibiotics, proper gauze counting, and confirmation of instrument and gown/drape sterility; other components of Clean Cut address appropriate hand and skin decontamination, use of sterile gloves, gowns and drapes, and routine use of the checklist to promote communication in the operating theater.



The program works sequentially by 1) engaging a multidisciplinary team, 2) mapping out current processes at each hospital, and 3) identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement and generating locally derived solutions at the hospital level. Throughout this iterative process, data are collected on intraoperative adherence to the WHO Checklist items, as well as subsequent patient outcomes.

Lifebox's signature Clean Cut quality improvement program has demonstrated remarkable results, reducing the relative risk of postoperative infections by 46% through reinforcing infection prevention standards and practices. When adapted specifically for cesarean sections (Clean-CS), the Lifebox Clean Cut program significantly improved perioperative staff practices, with greater compliance in at least 5 of 6 standard safety practices. Clean Cut has been effectively implemented in 46 hospitals across 11 countries, directly impacting more than 208,000 patients with a 35% reduction in surgical site infections.

Lifebox in collaboration with Women's Hope International is planning to implement the Clean-Cut project focused on C-sections and gynecologic surgeries at Attat Hospital over a period of 9 months.

The overall objectives of Clean-Cut program implementation at Attat Hospital are:

- Improve adherence to the six key perioperative processes and reduce surgical site infection rates following C-sections and gynecologic surgeries at Attat Hospital;
- To reduce surgical site infection rates by >30% from baseline
- Improve quality improvement (QI) strategies, effective operating room teamwork and communication, as well as Infection Prevention Control (IPC) compliance at Attat hospital.

3. Roles and responsibilities of the Fellow

The fellow will coordinate, monitor and support the implementation of the Clean-Cut program at Attat hospital and is expected to work closely with clinical and program teams of Lifebox working globally and to collaborate with other Lifebox staff on an ad-hoc basis in line with agreed project deliverables. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Participate in and contribute to the global Lifebox program on OBGYN related projects by working closely with the program implementation team.
- Lead or contribute to research and academic work measuring the project's impact and sustainability while advancing measurable safety improvements in C-sections, gynecologic surgery, and anesthesia in low-resource settings.
- Review Clean Cut methodology and content and current evidence on perioperative infection risk for patients undergoing CS deliveries and gynecologic surgeries in the perioperative period.



- Monitor data quality on a regular basis both on paper form (before it is entered to the DHIS2 platform) and DHIS2 and give timely feedback to data collectors and data entry personnel.
- Lead the process of data analysis and assessing the overall effectiveness and impact of the project.
- Coordinate and lead monthly adherence meetings at the hospital—setting agendas, preparing adherence meeting presentations by analysing data and going through it with Lifebox clinical lead before hand, facilitating discussions with the clinical lead, documenting action items, and sharing outcomes with Lifebox.
- Serve as the liaison between hospital Clean Cut team as well as leadership team teams and Lifebox; maintain a regular presence in OR, ward, and OPD (suggested twice weekly) as data collection takes place to address quality gaps in real time.
- Lead Lifebox-led training sessions at the hospital.
- Have regular biweekly mentoring and coordination meeting with Lifebox Clean Cut clinical lead and Senior Program Manager.
- Prepare, submit, and present project related research or quality improvement work, activity plans, reports and final fellowship report based on set timeline.
- Organizing meeting venues, sending invitations along with meeting agendas ahead of time.
- Attend Lifebox clinical team meetings as needed and present relevant content.
- Notify Lifebox at least one week in advance of any planned absence.

4. The Fellow will get:

- An opportunity to build skills and experience in quality improvement, delivery, human-centered design, operations management, and research in surgery and anesthesia.
- Training on the Clean-Cut program and methodologies by Lifebox's global clinical and program teams.
- Close mentorship and support from the Global Clean Cut clinical lead, Global Clinical director, and senior fellows of Lifebox. Additionally, mentorship will be provided from the research advisor and clinical team members of the global Lifebox team.
- Technical support provided from the program team members.
- The opportunity to generate impactful, publishable academic work that will improve how surgical and anesthetic care is delivered.
- Exposure to program development, delivery, and implementation, aspects of international development work, the impact of device distribution, human-centered design, training and education pedagogy and delivery, and the workings of a global nonprofit.



- The opportunity to develop skills and expertise on project/program management in low resource settings (This includes teamwork and communication skill, organizational skills, leadership skill, planning and reporting skills).
- Access and opportunity to collaborate with a robust international network of top-quality clinicians, research institutes, and other stakeholders engaged in ongoing programmatic work.
- A monthly stipend will be provided for the duration of 9 months to cover costs associated with the role.

5. Position Requirement:

- ObGyn resident from teaching institutions surrounding Attat Hospital (Wolkite University)
- Commitment to the duration of the project.
- Able to dedicate three days per week to the required activities.

6. Duration: The position will last for 9 months from September 9, 2025, to June 8, 2025

7. Accountability

Direct accountability is to the Lifebox Global Clean Cut clinical lead with close collaboration with Senior Program Manager for East & Southern Africa and with collaboration across the program implementation team.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply please email your CV and a cover letter as a single document explaining your motivation and how you are best suited for this position to opportunities@lifebox.org.

Please note the following:

Correspondence will only be entered with candidates who have been short-listed. If you have not received a reply within two weeks of the closing date, please consider your application as unsuccessful.

Closing date: 29 August 2024

Lifebox is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity