



SENIOR CLINICAL LEAD: WOMEN'S SURGICAL CARE

POSITION DETAIL

Job title: Senior Clinical Lead: Women's Surgical Care

Organisation: Lifebox

About us: Global nonprofit making surgery and anaesthesia safer worldwide

Reporting to: Global Clinical Director

Key relationships: Lifebox Clinical, Programs & M&E Teams, Ministries of Health; Professional Societies; Implementing Partners,

Location: Remote (Africa/Europe time zones) with international travel

Contract: Full-time

Background

Lifebox is a growing and dynamic global health non-profit dedicated to saving lives by improving the safety of surgery and anaesthesia around the world. Co-founded by Dr. Atul Gawande, Lifebox works to increase anaesthesia safety, reduce surgical infection rates, and strengthen operating room teamwork through tools, training, and partnerships. Since its founding in 2011, Lifebox has worked in over 116 countries and trained more than 14,400 healthcare providers. Lifebox is registered as a charity in Ethiopia, the UK, and US, with 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

Purpose of the role

The Senior Clinical Lead will serve as Lifebox's senior clinical expert and strategic advisor for women's surgical care globally. Reporting to Lifebox's Global Clinical Director, this role encompasses maternal health, obstetric and gynaecologic surgery, and the full spectrum of surgical conditions affecting women including trauma, breast disease, cancer, and emergency surgical conditions. The Senior Clinical Lead guides the design, implementation, and evaluation of Lifebox's women's surgical safety initiatives, ensuring alignment with global best practices, WHO standards, and evidence-based care.

Acting as both a strategic thought partner and technical advisor to the Global Clinical Director, the Senior Clinical Lead will ensure the clinical and technical quality of Lifebox's perioperative safety and quality programs for women's surgery, including mentoring multidisciplinary surgical teams across LMIC settings. The position plays a central role in Lifebox's expanding work on women's surgical care as a core component of the Lifebox 2025-2030 Safe Systems Strengthening Strategy.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Key Responsibilities

1. Strengthen Surgical Safety and Clinical Standards for Women's Surgical Care

- Lead development and dissemination of evidence-based safety protocols across the spectrum of women's surgical care—obstetric emergencies, gynaecologic surgery, trauma, breast

disease, cancer, and other emergency conditions ensuring alignment with WHO standards and adaptation to low-resource settings.

- Provide clinical oversight for implementing Lifebox perioperative safety interventions (Clean Cut, WHO Safe Surgical Checklist, SAFE OR, safer surgical pathways) across women's surgical services.
- Strengthen operating room workflows, perioperative coordination, and safety culture in women's surgical services.

2. Expand Training, Teaching, and Simulation-Based Learning

- Design, refine, and scale simulation-based training modules for women's surgical care, obstetric emergencies, gynaecologic procedures, trauma, breast disease, neonatal resuscitation, and surgical teamwork/communication.
- Lead training workshops, ToT sessions, and on-site mentorship for multidisciplinary surgical teams (surgeons, obstetricians, midwives, anaesthetists, nurses) ensuring content is evidence-based and contextually feasible.
- Mentor clinicians and build mentorship pathways for women's surgical care providers across partner facilities.

3. Lead Assessment, Quality Improvement & Strategic Development

- Conduct needs assessments and design quality improvement projects targeting surgical site infections, haemorrhage management, cancer care pathways, and maternal/neonatal outcomes.
- Provide technical assistance on implementing and evaluating interventions, working with M&E colleagues to develop measurement systems using DHIS2 or similar platforms.
- Guide design and scale-up of Lifebox women's surgical care initiatives aligned with the S4 Strategy, propose innovations, and support dissemination through publications and presentations.

4. External Engagement, Research & Thought Leadership

- Represent Lifebox at global platforms, technical working groups, and professional associations, collaborating with ministries of health, academic institutions, and NGOs.
- Lead research protocol development and evaluation activities, co-authoring publications and conference presentations that showcase Lifebox's leadership.
- Mentor clinical leads, fellows, and project staff, support proposal development and donor engagement, and serve as senior clinical thought partner to the Global Clinical Director.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- Medical degree with postgraduate specialization in Obstetrics & Gynecology (OBGYN), General Surgery, or related surgical specialty with extensive experience in women's surgical care across multiple domains (obstetric, gynaecologic, trauma, breast, cancer).
- Minimum 10+ years clinical experience in women's surgical care, with substantial experience in low-resource or LMIC settings.
- Deep technical expertise across the spectrum of women's surgical conditions, including maternal health, emergency obstetric care, gynaecologic surgery, trauma surgery for women, breast disease, and cancer care.

- Experience implementing surgical, maternal or perinatal quality improvement initiatives in women's health programs or patient safety and health systems strengthening.
- Strong understanding of operating room workflows and perioperative processes in low-resource settings across diverse surgical conditions.
- Demonstrated experience delivering clinical training and mentoring multidisciplinary surgical teams.
- Research experience and publications in women's surgical care, perioperative safety, or related field
- Strong analytical skills, including experience using DHIS2, Excel, Stata, or similar tools for data-driven decision-making.
- Excellent communication, facilitation, teaching, and partnership-building skills.
- Strong IT and remote collaboration skills (MS Office Suite, virtual platforms).
- Ability to work independently, collaboratively, and effectively across diverse cultural settings.
- Fluency in spoken and written English.
- Familiarity with e-learning platforms for clinical training.

Desirable

- Additional languages: French, Spanish, Amharic, Portuguese, or others relevant to program countries.
- Experience in cancer care, oncologic surgery, or breast disease management in resource-limited settings.
- Experience with trauma surgery or emergency surgical care for women.

Attributes

- Strong commitment to the Lifebox objective of improving surgical safety globally for women.
- Culturally sensitive, respectful, and skilled at working within multidisciplinary teams.
- Flexible, adaptive, and comfortable in a dynamic, growing global organization.
- Enthusiastic about innovation, capacity-building, and strengthening health systems.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply please email your CV and a cover letter as a single document stating your motivation for the position and how you meet the selection criteria 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: 16 February 2026

Applications received after the closing date may be considered until the post is filled.

Lifebox is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity