CONSULTANCY

Initial Terms of Reference

This consultancy is requested by:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Initiative:</th>
<th>Patient Safety Flagship</th>
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<td>Department:</td>
<td>Integrated Health Services</td>
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1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide technical support for WHO activities on patient safety, with a focus on WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge: Medication Without Harm; patient safety within the context of universal health coverage; patient safety in clinical risk areas; managing and strengthening WHO Medication Safety Network; strengthening bilateral and multilateral collaboration; managing development, translation and dissemination of WHO patient safety and medication safety tools and materials; and contributing to cross-cutting technical areas of work including medication safety assessments, education and training and patient engagement.

2. Background

Unsafe medication and medication error are a leading cause of avoidable harm in healthcare systems across the world. The scale and nature of this harm differs between high-, middle-, and low-income settings. Globally, the cost associated with medication errors has been estimated as $42 billion annually. This is almost 1% of total health expenditure. Medication errors occur when human and systems factors interact with the processes of prescribing, dispensing, and administering drugs. They can, and do, cause severe harm, disability, and death. There are risks at all stages of the medication process. It is important that their scope is explained, that level of awareness about them is raised, and that action is taken to protect patients from harm. Many side effects and adverse reactions are known about, and some of them can be reduced by careful clinical use of medicines. In contrast all medication errors are potentially avoidable.

The third WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge: Medication Without Harm, has a target to reduce the level of severe, avoidable harm related to medication by 50% over 5 years. The consultancy will contribute to the implementation of WHO activities on patient safety and risk management, with a focus on WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge: Medication Without Harm; development, translation and dissemination of WHO tools and materials, literature reviews; and management and online networks, and the cross-cutting technical areas of work including patient safety assessments, education and training and patient engagement. Special clinical risk areas and vulnerable population require targeted interventions to ensure medication safety. Development of specific solutions for these high-risk situations will help reduce medication related harm in these scenarios.

This consultancy will contribute to the development and dissemination of technical tools and support the implementation of the third WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge: Medication Without Harm.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)

Start date: 12/04/2021
End date: 11/03/2022
4. Work to be performed

Output 1. Contribute to the implementation of the third WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge

Deliverable 1.1: Provide strategic support, policy dialogue and technical assistance at country level, in consultation with regional focal points, for accelerating implementation of the third WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge

Deliverable 1.2: Support the implementation of the global advocacy campaign “Know, Check, Ask” and patient engagement tool “5 Moments for Medication safety” at country level

Deliverable 1.3: Develop tools and key interventions to support key priority areas of the Challenge including polypharmacy, transitions of care, and high-risk situations

Deliverable 1.4: Develop an advanced draft and contribute to the publication of policy brief on medication safety

Output 2: Facilitating the development of targeted guidance and tools for improving medication safety clinical risk areas and vulnerable population as ‘Medication Safety Solutions’ Technical Series

Deliverable 2.1. Develop an advanced draft and contribute to the publication of medication safety for ageing population

Deliverable 2.2: Develop an advanced draft and contribute to the publication of medication safety in perioperative care

Deliverable 2.3: Develop an advanced draft and contribute to the publication of medication safety in emergencies and extreme adversity

Deliverable 2.4: Develop an advanced draft and contribute to the publication of medication safety in look-alike, sound alike medications (LASA)

Output 3: Assessing the medication-related harm and evaluating the impact of the Challenge

Deliverable 3.1: Contribute to development of tools and methodologies for assessing medication safety

Deliverable 3.2: Contribute to the publication of medication safety assessment tool for facilities

Deliverable 3.3: Create questionnaire/s and tool/s, and support the global evaluation of the impact of the third WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge

Output 4: Managing and strengthening WHO Medication Safety Network, as a subgroup of the WHO Global Patient Safety Network, and organizing medication safety webinars

Deliverable 4.1: Identify and include key stakeholders to expand and strengthen the WHO Medication Safety Network

Deliverable 4.2: Develop draft report of the activities of the WHO Medication Safety Network

Deliverable 4.3: Organize medication safety webinars in collaboration with other technical teams and relevant stakeholders for members of Global Patient Safety Network
5. Technical Supervision

The selected Consultant will work on the supervision of:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Dr Neelam Dhingra Unit Head, WHO Patient Safety Flagship: A Decade of Patient Safety 2020-2030</th>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dhingran@who.int">dhingran@who.int</a></td>
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6. Specific requirements

Qualifications required:
Advanced university degree (Masters) in the field of health sciences, patient safety, medication safety, public health or health systems and services.

Experience required:

Essential:
A minimum of 7 years of experience at the national and international levels in patient safety, medication safety or public health, health-care service systems or health related position, of which at least four years’ experience in developing or managing initiatives, programmes, collaborations or relations with external stakeholders; experience in management of patient safety or medication safety, programme or activities in national or international settings; experience in managing international networks; experience of working with low- and middle-income countries; developing and maintaining websites, which including producing well-written articles or documents, requiring excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Desirable:
Knowledge of or experience in working with NGOs.
Knowledge of or experience in project/programme development and management.

Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:
Good knowledge of global health issues, epidemiological trends and burden of disease of unsafe health care and medication practices with in-depth knowledge of issues related to patient safety, medication safety and medication use process. Proven ability in contributing to medication safety initiatives. Good knowledge of and experience in engaging a diverse group of stakeholders, including professional networks. A good communicator and able to make judgments using available evidence. Ability to work within and contribute to a team. Skills and experience in developing proposals for resource mobilization, and in writing, editing of reports, technical guidance or advocacy materials.

Language requirements:
English (Read-Write-Speak/Expert)

7. Place of assignment

Different work stations

8. Medical clearance

The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

9. Travel

The Consultant may be expected to travel according to the needs of the project. The exact itinerary and estimated schedule will be discussed to identify the agreed dates and times:

All travel arrangements will be made by WHO – WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive subsistence allowance.

Visas requirements: it is the consultant’s responsibility to fulfil visa requirements and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.