

Call for Expressions of Interest and Proposal

VN013 - Job Title: To provide technical support for the analysis of the dengue fatal cases in Viet Nam in 2022, and a review of the current MOH guideline on diagnosis and treatment for dengue.

1. Background:

Dengue continues to be a public health problem in Viet Nam. As of 12 June 2022, a total of 62,955 dengue cases have been reported in the country, including 37 deaths. Of the 37 deaths reported, 36 were from the Southern region including HCMC city (8), Bình Dương (8), Tây Ninh (5), Đồng Nai (5), Long An (3), Đồng Tháp (2), Tiền Giang (2), Sóc Trăng (1), Bạc Liêu (1), Bình Phước (1), and one case from the Central-coastal province of Khanh Hoa. Compared with to the same time of 2021, the number of cases of 2022 increased by 97%, and the number of deaths increased 32 cases. Approximately 81% of the reported cases have been reported in the southern provinces. It is expected that the outbreak will continue to escalate and more provinces in other regions would observe increase in dengue cases in coming months as this time of the year is considered as the beginning of the outbreak season.

There have been several hypotheses for increasing the number of deaths due to dengue in the first half of 2022 compared with the same time of 2021 which include: (1) after more than two years of COVID-19 pandemic response, many health workers working in the area of infectious diseases have either shifted to other specialties or moved to private sector; (2) the professional capacity for early detection and treatment of local health care workers is limited including that from unexperienced clinicians, especially while having to dealt with many dengue cases that have been transferred or presented to hospital late and/or due to a wrong diagnosis with COVID-19 or other infectious diseases; (3) Lack of some medicines, treatment supplies for severe patients including those presented in a stage of dengue shock syndrome.

The Ministry of Health has developed and disseminated the guideline for diagnosis and treatment of dengue, and a Handbook for dengue management since 2019. The guideline and the handbook have been developed and adapted based on the previous guideline issued in 2012 and with some changes on clinical characteristics, epidemiologic situation and experience of Viet Nam. However, after more than 2 years of COVID-19, the current guideline and handbook need to be reviewed taking into account lessons learned from COVID-19 case management and to meet the current situation of care pathways, especially on early recognition of warning signs of and treatment for severe dengue patients for both adult and children patients.

It is utmost important for the health sector in urgently identify the underlying issues and challenges in dengue case management in order to minimize further dengue fatal cases and to reduce number of severe dengue patients among those hospitalized. To facilitate this

urgent task, the WHO Viet Nam Country Office (WCO) is recruiting an international expert to support the MoH to conduct an assessment of the dengue fatal cases in 2022 and to review the current national guideline on diagnosis and treatment for dengue with the aim to improve case management outcomes.

2. Work to be performed

Scope of work:

- a) Provide technical and expert support including methodological guidance for the conducting mortality review
 - b) Support review and revision (as needed) of clinical management guideline for dengue.
- The consultancy is requested to work with a panel of national experts and arraign virtual meeting and face to face meeting in Viet Nam, including potential visits to hospitals.

A final mission report on the analysis of fatal cases due to the dengue in hospitals in Viet Nam in 2022:

- Time: 10 Jul 2022- 31 Jul 2022

A set of recommendations for updating the 2019 national guideline on diagnosis and treatment for dengue.

- Time: 1 Aug- 10 Aug 2022

3. Specific requirements

Educational Qualifications

Essential: Post-graduate degree in medicine, with extensive experience in clinical management for infectious disease, especially in dengue.

Desirable: Advanced training or degree in tropical medicine; demonstrated high skill, knowledge and experiences in treatment for infectious disease; documented experience and contribution in development of guideline for diagnosis and treatment for dengue in the region and/or at global level.

Experience

Essential: Minimum of 10 years of working on management and treatment for dengue

Desirable: Prior experience in case management review including death review for infectious diseases; experience in developing national/ regional guidelines for diagnosis and treatment for dengue; prior exposure with clinical management of dengue in hospitals in Viet Nam; experience in working with UN agencies, especially WHO.

Skills/Knowledge

Excellent knowledge of diagnosis and treatment for dengue, and programme management of dengue

Skills in analysis of clinical characteristics, especially for fatal cases due to infectious disease

Ability to work with and facilitate a group of experts with diverse clinical experiences especially on dengue

Ability to communicate complex information clearly

Languages and level required

Good English communication skills, both speaking and writing

5. Place of assignment

On site: Hanoi, Viet Nam from 10-12 July

On site: HCM city and south provinces: 13-16 July

Off site: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: 17-19 July 2022

On site: Hanoi and HCM city from 20 Jul-10 Aug 2022

6. Medical clearance

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

7. Travel

Hanoi, Viet Nam: From 11-12 Jul 2022

Working with WHO CO team, national experts to provide a review and analysis of the dengue fatal cases in hospitals in Viet Nam in 2022; to provide comments on possible direct and indirect causes, contributing factors to fatal cases reported due to dengue

HCM city, Binh Duong, Tay Ninh: From 13-15 Jul 2022

to collect data on the ground and to discuss with local staff to better understand the situation; Working with local experts/doctors on dengue at hospitals and community for providing inputs for analyzing mortality causes for dengue

Kuala Lumpur: from 16-20 Jul:

Offsite support for reviewing current guidelines for dengue treatment and providing recommendations of revising the guideline and preparing for the reports.

Hanoi, HCM city, south provinces: 21 Jul- 10 Aug 2022

Continue providing on-site support for analyzing mortality and reviewing current guidelines on dengue; completion of report on mortality analysis and recommendations

8. Budget

Please take note of the following when submitting application:

- The contractor will be responsible for paying taxes, if any.

Those who are interested can submit application with the most updated CV to contact detail at the end of the announcement before/by **6 July 2022**.

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