

India – Improving Reproductive and Child Health

Molecular and Field Epidemiology Studies with Woman and Child Cohorts in Mysore, India <u>Purnima Madhivanan</u> (University of Arizona, Tucson), <u>Art Reingold</u> (University of California, Berkeley), <u>Lee Riley</u> (University of California, Berkeley

Background: The Public Health Research Institute of India (PHRII) is a charitable trust focused on public health research and evidence-based care for women and children in India. Located in Mysore, the second largest city in Karnataka, PHRII has established collaborations with University of California, Berkeley; JSS University; National Rural Health Mission (NRHM); Karnataka State AIDS Control Society; and the Positive Women's network. The organization has a full-service diagnostic laboratory, a reproductive health clinic in central Mysore City, and mobile clinics serving rural areas of Mysore District.

Project Description: The aim of this initiative is to collaborate with PHRII on ongoing projects studying the following topics:

- Mental health issues in pregnant and postnatal women
- Prevention of vertical transmission of HIV
- Identification and management of noncommunicable diseases in urban and peri-urban slums
- Under 5-child mortality among disadvantaged populations in remote tribal and rural areas
- Cognitive and mental development of infant and relationship to maternal mental health

- Primary and secondary prevention of cervical cancer
- Development of diagnostics for cancer screening and gestational diabetes
- Understanding risk behaviors among emerging adults

Each of these projects involves field-based and/or laboratory work in Mysore, India. PHRII's research collaboration with UCB Riley Laboratories has focused on the pathogenesis of infectious and chronic diseases; molecular epidemiology on tuberculosis and drug-resistant gram-negative bacterial infections, field epidemiology, and slum health. For further information on the types of projects available through PHRII, you can go to the <u>PHRII website</u>.

<u>Required Qualifications</u>: Preference will be given to candidates who have analytical skills, molecular microbiology or field experience and have worked in international settings before.