Role Description – Medical Leader

Overview

Expedition medical teams are devised for each of our expeditions based on a thorough assessment of medical requirements, taking into account a range of factors including but not limited to the environment, client group and access to local facilities/services. Our medical teams consist of fully qualified medical professionals and may include doctors and other healthcare professionals such as Nurses or Paramedics with appropriate specialist experience. Our expeditions include both Senior and Junior medics.

Senior Medical Leaders are always fully qualified doctors and will usually have expedition medicine experience prior to taking on the role. They oversee screening processes and support junior Medical Leaders in decision making in the field. Where there is only one medical leader attached to an expedition team, they will automatically be a Senior Medical Leader.

Junior Medical Leaders may be doctors, nurses or paramedics. They work under the supervision of the Senior Medical Leader in the field although this supervision will often be remote rather than direct.

Responsibilities

Pre-Expedition

- Attend all relevant training prior to the expedition. Training requirements are specific to each expedition and the needs of the client group and may include 3-4 training weekends and/or a training week. All training events are considered mandatory.
- Contact your defence organisation and ensure they will provide cover for your role on the expedition. You should not leave this too late and should make sure you obtain written confirmation of cover.
- Research medical problems specific to location and activities of expedition.
- Check the contents of medical kits provided to you by the British Exploring Society office and confirm that it meets the needs of your team and expedition, liaising with the office team as appropriate relating to any expedition specific additions.
- Brief all expedition members on medical issues during pre-expedition training. You will be expected to give a short medical talk about important issues pertinent to the expedition.
- Undertake 1-2-1 interviews with all expedition participants during pre-expedition training as part of the medical screening process. Where participants are unable to attend training, this will be done remotely online.
- Answer medical queries from the office, participants and parents / carers, particularly regarding any applicants with medical concerns.
- Support the process of obtaining permits for controlled drugs (if applicable).
• Contribute to planning, risk assessments, expedition-specific guidelines and similar as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society or the expedition Chief Leader.

• Liaise closely with the British Exploring Society medical advisors and the office team to ensure that any guidance produced is checked and cleared before publication.

On Expedition

• Inspire participants and engage fully in activities to support the aims and purpose of British Exploring Society and the expedition.

• At the beginning of the expedition brief Leaders and participants with respect to the first aid kits, their contents and usage, and any other points pertinent to the expedition.

• Contact local medical facilities to confirm services available and access to them.

• Be on call throughout the expedition to deal with any medical queries.

• Complete an incident/medical form for any issues that arise to maintain accurate records.

• Encourage everyone to self-manage minor problems, with input from medic if appropriate.

• At the end of the expedition, brief all participants on post expedition "blues". Suggest they see their GP if they develop any illness after return and give history of being on expedition. If appropriate, instruct expedition members to continue anti-malarial medication where relevant.

• All Leaders must always regard it as a priority to ensure the safety of each member of the expedition.

Post Expedition

• Contribute to the overall Medical post expedition report (PXR) and expedition feedback as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society, Chief Leader and/or Senior Social Leader.

• Contact participants GPs with details of any serious medical issues during expedition if appropriate.

• Attend the expedition debrief event & presentation. This is usually a single day event held in London approximately 2 months after your return from expedition.
Person Specification

Essential

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<tr>
<th>Doctors</th>
<th>Nurses</th>
<th>Paramedics</th>
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<tr>
<td>• MBChB/MBBS (or equivalent).</td>
<td>• Full Nursing Qualification.</td>
<td>• Currently licensed paramedic.</td>
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<td>• Full UK GMC registration with no restrictions on practice or equivalent registration in another country. (For UK trained GMC registered doctors, this requires satisfactory completion of F1 and F2 years prior to the expedition departure date).</td>
<td>• Full UK GNC registration with no restrictions on practice or equivalent registration in an EU country.</td>
<td>• Must be able to gain personal defence union cover.</td>
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- An interest in youth development and experience of working with young people relevant to the expedition client group*

- Expedition experience or extensive personal travel in remote areas/developing world locations.

- Medical experience in non-clinical environments (expedition, sport or event medicine).

- Experience of A&E and/or Trauma medicine.

- Expedition medicine course or qualification e.g. advanced expedition first aid, Wilderness Medical Training (WMT) or similar.

- High levels of integrity and sound judgement.

- A strong and flexible team player.

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

- Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire others.

- The ability to deal with conflict and overcome challenge effectively.

Desirable

- Adventurous/outdoor leadership activity qualifications and/or training.

*client groups vary between expeditions and may include young people with special educational needs, low aspirations, emotional and behavioural difficulties or specific developmental or support needs. Please see the relevant expedition pages for more details.
British Exploring Society is committed to building an executive and volunteer team that together represent a diverse variety of backgrounds, skills, and perspectives on the world. The more inclusive we are, the better we think we’ll be at delivering our charitable aims.

Our focus is on supporting those most disadvantaged in childhood and adolescence. To deliver our charitable aims, and secure our future, our actions and behaviours must support our commitment to welcoming young people, volunteers and team members from backgrounds and life experiences which reflect our aims and the changing dynamics of contemporary life. We are making good progress providing access and programmes which work for young people from right across society, but we urgently need to diversify our staff and volunteer teams. We actively seek the energy, wisdom, and challenge of those who represent the life experiences of the young people we serve, and who can increase our effectiveness as a team.