

Medic

"Raleigh encompassed everything I wanted to do - the job I love, travelling to interesting and remote places and being with like minded people. It challenged me and ultimately gave me the experience to be a better practitioner."

Sarah Rounding, Borneo 2010

The Role

Medics have a dual role – they are both Medics and Project Managers. The role of the Medic consists of looking after the general health of all volunteers and managing emergencies that may occur. At the start of the expedition they will prepare the kits for all project sites and vehicles, complete one-to-ones with each volunteer in order to understand the health needs of the expedition, and give basic first aid instruction to all volunteers. Each expedition consists of three phases, so medics can expect to be out on project for at least two phases. This means that you'll get to spend time facilitating the personal development of venturers and work alongside fellow Project Managers to deliver the aims of the project, in addition to your medical contributions. You may also spend a phase at fieldbase supporting projects without a medic - an exciting opportunity to provide medical advice over the HF radio/mobile phones/SAT phones, usually to very remote settings and challenging environments. They are also the lead on medical operations during that time, as well as being members of the general fieldbase support team.

Essential Skills

- Medically qualified (either Doctor, Registered General Nurse or Paramedic) with a minimum of two year's experience post-qualification
- Medical skills that are transferable to remote static environments as well as transient trekking sites.
- Willingness to be flexible and put the needs of the expedition and the venturers first
- Ability to teach basic first aid and promote health and safety on expedition.
- Ability to prioritise/triage
- A high level of interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to listen, empathise and work with individuals from a variety of backgrounds
- Open to personal development concepts and willing to engage in own development
- The ability to manage a variety of demanding and sometimes conflicting responsibilities in a physical, remote and dynamic environment
- Display effective personal leadership and develop leadership skills of others
- Plan logically and in detail producing practical, effective solutions to manage resources, achieve goals or overcome real problems

Desirable Skills

- A comprehensive understanding of wound care
- Ability to cannulate
- Accident and emergency experience
- Knowledge of sports injuries, tropical diseases and mountaineering medicine (as applicable to the expedition country) is beneficial
- Previous experience of working with young people (17-24 years old)

Fieldbase

During your time at fieldbase, you'll be working from the in-country headquarters to support the expedition under the guidance of the in-country staff. Fieldbase is a lively place and a great opportunity to learn new skills. Versatility is essential: you might be required to take on extra responsibility while other volunteer managers are away from fieldbase. Every expedition is different but the fieldbase team should be ready to get stuck in and put the needs of the expedition first.

Medic (cont...)

Core Responsibilities

- Maintain the health and safety of all volunteers
- Provide immediate emergency medical care when required
- Provide basic first aid training to volunteers
- Keep accurate records of any illness and treatments and communicate with the necessary individuals/agencies
- Facilitate group and individual development, with particular regard to cross cultural needs
- Produce a written report at the end of the expedition
- Review individual and group performance with the Project Manager(s) and assist in initiating personal development plans

Other Information: Legality and Insurance Details

All medics must be registered with the appropriate professional council. All doctors must be a member of MPS or MDU. Doctors must inform MDU or MPS of the country they are volunteering in and cannot volunteer for longer than 12 weeks. All nurses must be members of the RCN who provide cover up to a limit of £2,000,000. All paramedics must join Unison. This will provide professional indemnity up to a limit of £1,000,000.

Benefits

- Make a genuine difference to host communities and environments: with a permanent fieldbase in each country, in-country staff are able to build long-term relationships with project partners and beneficiaries to ensure the projects are worthwhile and sustainable
- Get off-the-beaten track! Raleigh works in areas tourists don't have access to, meaning that our programme offers a unique opportunity to explore remote and pristine environments
- Experience a unique exchange of cultures and get to know some incredible people you may not otherwise have the chance to meet
- Develop your skills and confidence in an exciting and challenging environment whilst helping young people on their way to being the best they can be