



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Technician (Image Analyst), Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology
School/Department:	School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Reference:	19/107611
Closing Date:	Wednesday 24 July 2019
Salary:	£27,831 - £32,236 per annum (potential to progress to £35,210 per annum through sustained exceptional contribution)
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 12 August 2019
Duration:	Until 31 December 2021

JOB PURPOSE:

To undertake specialist technical laboratory support within the Molecular Pathology and Digital Pathology Programme, in the Precision Medicine Centre of Excellence (PMCoE) at QUB.

Carrying out experimental and analytical molecular and tissue based hybridisation investigations and digital pathology evaluations.

To be responsible for the validation and standardisation of novel procedures, techniques and tests.

To assist in training of new staff members and visitors as well as to contribute to the development and data management relating to the technical and analytical aspects of the Centre.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Ensure the timely and efficient provision of core analytical techniques, including but not limited to digital pathological assessment of immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridisation.
2. Responsible for monitoring quality control of all the investigations performed and carry out analyses on a range of tests, taking remedial action when required and as directed by senior staff.
3. Contribute to manuscript preparations, reports and other publication outputs and be responsible for ensuring accuracy of the technical content disseminated.
4. Ensure knowledge of all instrumentation and software to be utilised within the workflow.
5. Ensure that work is carried out in line with Standing Operational Procedures and local policies.
6. Responsible for own work and that of junior members of staff under the direction of senior Tissue Hybridization & Digital Pathology Leads. This will include all aspects of the clinical, scientific & technical work, staff, equipment and quality system.
7. Document competency for all tasks undertaken, in line with laboratory policy.
8. Run image analysis software in controlled experiments across tissue microarrays and tissue samples for the evaluation of biomarkers.
9. Provide a quality and efficient service and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the use of human tissue and digital pathology according to the Human Tissue Act 2004 and accreditation standards such as, CLIA, ISO18159(2012) and understand the ethical issues relating to digital pathology.
10. Input data and update laboratory databases, as required.
11. Carry out appropriate digital image analyses, as required.
12. Comply with Health and Safety procedures affecting self and others.
13. Work with the team to ensure delivery of high-quality and accurate outputs.
14. Carry out any other duties which are appropriate to the post as may be reasonably requested by the supervisory team.
15. Participate in continuous professional development through annual appraisal.

Planning and Organising:

1. To assist in developing service plans for the PMC.

2. To participate in research and developmental work of the PMC and to implement new techniques as appropriate in support of clinical activity.
3. Carry out a range of tasks, working mainly within Standing Operational Procedures and minimal supervision.
4. Plan own work schedule, responding to new pressures, adjusting priorities as needed.
5. Aid in planning as well as assessing requirements and resources needed in advance.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Take responsibility for and supervise trainees and junior staff, maintaining training records when under post holder's supervision.
2. Liaise with equipment service engineers regarding machine/software support and carry out basic troubleshooting.
3. Implement cost improvement programmes as directed by senior staff.
4. Ensure equipment is maintained to schedule and that all maintenance is documented.
5. Ensure that quality control tests are conducted and meet required analytical standards.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Commercial representatives, engineers and other staff from suppliers and collaborators.
2. Genomic/genetic technologists and BMS staff from local and national health services.
3. Daily contact with supervisory team, work colleagues, University, clinical staff and students.
4. Liaison with external consultants and collaborators.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Academic and/or vocational qualifications ie HND/HNC and/or NVQ level 4 in relevant subject (or equivalent).
2. 4 years relevant experience to include:
 - Experience in Cellular Pathology Laboratory or equivalent laboratory environment
 - Experience in a CPA/UKAS environment or other relevant accredited environment.
 - Experience working with cancer samples
 - Experience with IHC and FISH or other hybridisation technologies
 - Basic experience in slide scanning / Digital Pathology
3. Able to create and follow SOPs.
4. Technical knowledge in own specific or technical specialism.
5. Working knowledge of relevant systems, equipment and processes.
6. Full understanding of EQA & IQA and their implications.
7. Computer skills.
8. Problem solving skills.
9. Excellent verbal and written communicating skills .
10. Ability to develop and demonstrate standard equipment and techniques.
11. Ability to work within established procedures but with minimal supervision.
12. Ability to plan, organise and prioritise work and meet deadlines.
13. Ability to provide standard guidance and advice to junior colleagues/students.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Degree in a related subject.
2. Current HCPC registration / IBMS Specialist Portfolio.
3. Experience in Molecular Technology.
4. Basic experience in Digital Image Analysis.
5. Experience with clinical samples for molecular analysis.
6. Experience of teaching practical skills to junior staff or students.
7. Awareness of clinical significance of laboratory findings and implications for patients
8. Ability to efficiently work with a multitude of researchers and clinical staff on a wide variety of topics.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For further information about the Precision Medicine Centre: <https://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/PMC/>