

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant
School/Department:	Pharmacy
Reference:	19/107831
Closing Date:	Monday 23 September 2019
Salary:	£28,331 to £32,817 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 30 September 2019
Duration:	Temporary until 31 May 2020

JOB PURPOSE:

To assist the research team to develop and characterised new types of implantable devices for prolonged drug delivery.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research in a programme of implantable drug delivery devices development and conduct the research activities as a member of a research team.
2. Manufacture long-acting drug delivery systems, including nanosuspensions/nanocrystal formulations and solid implantable devices.
3. Carry out critical evaluations, analyses and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research, including: FTIR, DSC, TGA, SEM and HPLC.
4. Contribute to improving existing experimental protocols and introducing new techniques as required in order to obtain reliable data.
5. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
6. Write up results of own work and contribute to the production of research reports, publications and funding proposals.
7. Carry out occasional undergraduate supervision/demonstrating/teaching duties under the direction of a member of academic staff.
8. Carry out routine administrative duties associated with the research project to ensure activities are completed on time and within budget. These may include organisation of project documentation, financial control and risk assessment of activities.
9. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan own day-to-day activities within the framework of the agreed research programme.
2. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports, conference presentations, publications etc. usually up to one year in advance.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in the most effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration. Join external networks to share information and ideas.
2. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Hold a degree in Pharmacy or equivalent qualification.

2. At least 1 year's recent, relevant research experience developing long-acting drug delivery systems, including implantable devices or nanoparticle formulations.
3. Experience developing new formulation methods for pharmaceutical products.
4. Experience in the preparation and characterisation of solid drug delivery systems.
5. Experience working with bead milling, spray-drying and high pressure homogenisation for formulation development.
6. Knowledge of analytical techniques including FTIR, UV-visible spectroscopy, DSC, TGA and HPLC.
7. Previous experience working on funded research project by external organisations.
8. Williness to assist early career researchers to establish core assay technical competence.
9. Ability to carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research projects and laboratory maintenance.
10. Ability to communicate complex information clearly both verbally and written.
11. Analytical and problem solving skills.
12. Knowledge of scientific literature pertaining to long-acting delivery systems.
13. Ability to present scientific arguments and data in a clear, concise and confident manner.
14. Ability to present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
15. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
16. Ability to work collaboratively and effectively as part of a team.
17. Ability to act decisively and confidently.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience in patient-facing aspects of pharmacy.
2. Experience in supervision of undergraduate or postgraduate students.