

Candidate Information

Position:	Technician
School/Department:	Centre for Experimental Medicine
Reference:	19/107993
Closing Date:	Thursday 2 January 2020
Salary:	£18,342 - £21,236 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 23 January 2019
Duration:	Available until 31 July 2020 with possibility of extension

JOB PURPOSE:

The postholder will work in the research group led by Dr Reinhold Medina to provide technical support to a research project investigating a novel therapeutic target for diabetic retinopathy. The project will employ a broad range of cell and molecular biological approaches using in vitro and in vivo model systems to study diabetic retinopathy. The successful candidate will integrate and support a research group of 12 scientists including PhDs, junior and senior Postdoctoral researchers.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To build on their existing technical expertise to provide specialist support for a range of ongoing projects, especially those pertaining to in vitro and in vivo models of cardiovascular disease. The required laboratory-based technical input will be diverse with opportunities to learn and develop new technical skills according to the need of the various projects.
2. To interface regularly with members of the team to provide support in a range of techniques, especially in the context of cell isolation/culture and mouse colony maintenance and genotyping.
3. To undertake tasks related to general duties, such as blood processing, cell culture, mycoplasma testing, cleaning rotas, media dispensing rotas, and cell bank storage.
4. To provide detailed guidance and technical support to academic, post-doctoral, postgraduate and undergraduate student colleagues, as required.
5. Undertake experimental protocols to ensure delivery of experimental data in a timely and rigorous manner. Where possible, these should be done according to existing Standard operating procedures and the Good Laboratory Practice-like standards.
6. To monitor and control resources that relate to the post-holders area of investigation.
7. Adequately operate analytical instruments, and when required, contribute to the development of new or improved methods/techniques based on technical knowledge and experience.
8. To be responsible for contributing to the promotion of good laboratory practice within WWIEM. To help to ensure that all Health & Safety requirements in accordance with established procedures are being properly implemented.
9. To undertake any other reasonable duties, within the general ambit of the post and the competence of the post-holder, in accordance with the changing needs and demands of a dynamic research environment.

Planning and Organising:

1. Ensuring reagents, consumables and equipment are available for experiments.
2. May prioritise duties within own work schedule, but refer to Supervisor for prioritising and scheduling of non-standard work.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Assistance with general housekeeping / stock control and procurement of core laboratory supplies and equipment. Includes helping to accurately apportion individual end-user costs and offering assistance in reconciliation of consumable budget(s) and user equipment-related costs to ensure proper and efficient use of resources.
2. Provision of ongoing specialist technical guidance, support and skills training to postdocs/students in various experimental research methods and their application. Responsibility for routine oversight and general maintenance, servicing and repairs to equipment within work area is expected.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Daily contact with Supervisor, work colleagues, University staff and students.
2. Some liaison with external consultants and company representatives in the normal course of carrying out duties of post.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Academic and/or vocational qualifications e.g. 5 GCSE's A-C and/or NVQ level 2 in relevant subject (or equivalent).
2. One year experience in laboratory research which must include:
 1. Flow cytometry; and
 2. In vivo experimental models and/or mouse colony management.
3. Must be able to understand and construct complex technical protocols.
4. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
5. Must be motivated to carry out laboratory-based research to a very high standard and display enthusiasm for scientific pursuits.
6. Ability to work as part of a team.
7. Must be prepared to work outside normal office hours occasionally.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Honours degree in a relevant subject area.
2. Experience with cell culture.
3. Experience with molecular and cellular techniques such as RT-PCR, tissue sectioning, microscopy.
4. Experience of good record keeping in a laboratory setting.
5. Knowledge of ethical and/or HTA issues relating to research.
6. Home Office Personal Licence.
7. Ability to develop, troubleshoot and perform a range of technical duties to a very high standard.