

Candidate Information

| Position: | Research Assistant |
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| School/Department: | Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research |
| Reference: | 21/108703 |
| Closing Date: | Monday 12 April 2021 |
| Salary: | £28,331 to £32,817 per annum |
| Anticipated Interview Date: | Thursday 29 April 2021 |
| Duration: | 1 year |

JOB PURPOSE:

This position is within Dr. Yaser Atlasi's group at PGJCCR. The AC1 research assistant will work on a cutting-edge project focusing on the role of chromatin regulators instem cells. The successful candidate will use CRISPR/Cas9 editing followed by state-of-the-art genomics approaches to study the role of selected epigenetic modifiers in embryonic stem cells and tissue derived organoids. The Ac1 research assistant will support optimization of CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing, low cell number genomics approaches, and phenotypic screens of generated cells.

The successful candidate will be expected to also provide organisational support to the programme, in terms of monitoring and cataloguing stock levels, recording, storage and analysis of data, and presentation of results. The post holder will be expected to liaise strongly with the team leaders, learn and be familiar with appropriate techniques.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- 1. Stem cell culture (embryonic stem cells and/or organoids).
- 2. CRISPR/Cas9 genetic editing.
- 3. Next generation sequencing techniques (RNA-seq and ChIP-seq, and ATAC-seq).
- 4. Molecular biology techniques, including Western blotting, flow cytometry, RT-PCR.
- 5. Learn other technologies related to analysis generated NGS data.
- 6. Participate in laboratory duty rotas and to maintain and perform basic troubleshooting.
- 7. Write up results of own work and contribute to the production of research reports, publications and proposals.
- 8. Communicate and interact effectively with other personnel concerning the laboratory and procedures there in.
- 9. Carry out undergraduate supervision/demonstrating/teaching duties under direction.
- 10. To assist senior scientists in their duties.
- 11. Comply with health and safety procedures affecting self and others and ensure the work area is clean and safe at all times.
- 12. Carry out all of the above according to the existing procedures and SOPs, including the laboratory rules related to laboratory accreditation, maintaining accurate records of results in a manner that will enable them to be accessed and interpreted.

Planning and Organising:

- 1. Ensure all supplies and equipment are available so that work can proceed as scheduled.
- 2. Assist in the optimisation of new techniques or use of new reagents and troubleshoot as required.
- 3. Development and management of SOPs.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

- 1. Responsibility for the general maintenance and efficient performance of equipment in the laboratory.
- 2. Have responsibility for cataloguing, monitoring and ensuring adequate levels of stocks.
- 3. To supervise students and staff and assist in their training.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Daily contact with supervisors, work colleagues and other members of staff.

- 2. Some contact with laboratory sales representatives and maintenance engineers.
- 3. Attendance and involvement at seminars and research meetings as required.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- 1. MSc in biology, biomedical science, medical laboratory sciences or related subject.
- 2. 1 years relevant laboratory research experience in Cell/Molecular Biology.
- 3. Experience with stem cell culture including embryonic stem cells and/ or organoids.
- 4. Experience with CRISPT/Cas9 gene editing.
- 5. Experience with Next-Generation Sequencing technologies.
- 6. Recent relevant experience in other molecular genetics techniques.
- 7. Experience in good laboratory practice (GLP) environment.
- 8. Sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniquesin in epigenetics.
- 9. Technical knowledge of cell/molecular biology/ genetics.
- 10. Knowledge of relevant Health and Safety issues and of COSHH regulations.
- 11. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
- 12. Be capable of using own initiative.
- 13. Ability to work in a team and as an individual.
- 14. Ability to plan own work schedule responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. PhD.
- 2. Experience with flow cytometry.