

## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Technician
<b>School/Department:</b>	Wellcome-Wolfson Inst for Experimental Medicine
<b>Reference:</b>	21/108778
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 24 May 2021
<b>Salary:</b>	£24,461 to £28,331 per annum
<b>Anticipated Interview Date:</b>	Friday 11 June 2021
<b>Duration:</b>	12 months with possibility of extension

### JOB PURPOSE:

This position is to join the influenza molecular virology research team led by Dr David Courtney in the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine. We study post-transcriptional regulation of influenza viruses through generous funding from the European Research Council (ERC), project 949506. We have an exciting project aimed at visualising viral RNA in infected cells and by this method determining how the presence or absence of host RNA-binding proteins affects RNA characteristics. The successful candidate will be an integral part of the team, contributing to ongoing research currently underway in the lab while also having a unique project to focus on and have ownership over.

### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Provide technical advice and guidance within a research programme aimed at understanding the role of post-transcriptional regulation in the influenza virus replication cycle.
2. Provide detailed information and guidance to technical staff in laboratory/workshop procedures/research experiments as appropriate. Carry out school/undergraduate/post-graduate student training and supervision under the guidance of a member of academic staff.
3. Contribute to the development, construction and modification of components/apparatus using full range of techniques for research purposes.
4. Set up specialised equipment and apparatus for use by academics and students in practical experiments.
5. Prepare and carry out procedures for tests/experiments and collate, record and tabulate data for interpretation, e.g. the preparation of special materials, compounds and solutions, producing test specimens based on research requirements.
6. Maintain, test, fault finding and repair equipment/apparatus to ensure it is safe to use and complies with relevant statutory safety regulations. Ensure general workshop/laboratory services tidiness.
7. Allocate tasks to technical staff and follow up to ensure work is completed to required standards and timescales.
8. Responsible for maintaining stock levels, to ensure there is adequate stock at all times.
9. Comply with Health and Safety procedures affecting self and others. Maintain and update all general lab SOPs, risk assessments and COSHH forms.
10. Carry out experimental design, data analysis, critical evaluation, and interpretation of results using methods and techniques appropriate to the area of research. Generate and characterise reporter or tagged influenza A virus stocks.
11. Maintain up-to-date knowledge of the field of interest at the cutting edge and communicate this to the group.
12. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the day-to-day running of the research group to ensure that project milestones are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
13. Carry out any other duties which are appropriate to the post as may be reasonably requested by Supervisor.

### Planning and Organising:

1. Prioritise own work within a general plan or schedule to meet deadlines and appropriate standards and assist supervisors and other senior staff in planning for future work. Includes co-ordinating arrangement and allocating tasks to others. Plan the layout of the laboratory as well as assessing requirements and resources needed in advance.

2. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research programme as well as communal activities (e.g. meetings) were appropriate.

**Resource Management Responsibilities:**

1. Take delegated responsibility for the general maintenance, servicing and repair of equipment, etc. in a work area.
2. Allocate/delegate some work to others for specific activities; taking responsibility for ensuring work is completed to required standards and timescales.
3. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any postgraduate/undergraduate students and visiting researchers who may be assisting with research work within the group.

**Internal and External Relationships:**

1. Communicate and liaise with users of the technical service (e.g. staff, students, external users) to establish requirements.
2. Liaise with key contacts in the wider University body to support own activities/specific tasks, as required.
3. Liaise on a regular basis with supervisor and other members of the research team.
4. Communicate appropriately and effectively with lab colleagues on topics such as results within the group and field. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

1. \*Academic or vocational qualifications (i.e. NVQ 3, 2 A Levels, ONC/OND, City and Guilds level 3 or equivalent in a relevant subject.
2. \*At least 3 years of recent hands-on lab experience.
3. \*Basic experience with a range of techniques to include:
  1. Western blotting, qPCR or other molecular methods
  2. Molecular manipulation of viruses or viral vectors such as, lentivirus, AAV or influenza and subsequent cell line infections.
  3. Imaging of viruses or virus infected cells by electron or fluorescent microscopy.
  4. Genetic modification of mammalian cell types using CRISPR/Cas9 systems.
4. Knowledge of relevant Health and Safety issues and of COSHH regulations.
5. Competent in maintaining knowledge of cutting-edge of field of expertise.
6. Understanding of Good Laboratory Practice.
7. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
8. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
9. Ability to develop and demonstrate standard techniques.
10. Analytical and problem solving skills.
11. Ability to train staff and allocate work.
12. Ability to prioritise own work within a general plan to meet deadlines.
13. Strong ability to work from own initiative.
14. Excellent problem-solving skills.
15. Excellent teamwork skills.
16. Highly ambitious, motivated, efficient, organised and show a commitment to, and interest in, research topic.
17. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Degree level qualification or equivalent in relevant subject to include virology, biochemistry, cell biology, molecular biology, or a relevant biomedical science.
2. Experience of RNA next-generation sequencing.
3. Up-to-date knowledge in the field of viral-host interactions.