



## Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Research Fellow
<b>School/Department:</b>	The Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine
<b>Reference:</b>	21/108821
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday 7 June 2021
<b>Salary:</b>	£33,797- £36,914 per annum
<b>Duration:</b>	7 months

### **JOB PURPOSE:**

To join Prof Cecilia O'Kane's research group investigating pulmonary non tuberculous mycobacterial infection (NTM) within the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, in QUB. The successful candidate will work on a MRC-Confidence In Concept funded study investigating the role of a novel anti-mycobacterial agent in non-tuberculous mycobacterial infection.

### **MAJOR DUTIES:**

1. Undertake research under supervision within the research project.
2. Design, develop and refine experimental protocols in order to obtain reliable data, investigating the effect of novel antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory agent, X, against M abscessus strains in broth culture and in infected cells.
3. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
4. Contribute to daily laboratory maintenance in association with the other members of the lab group.
5. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group, Centre or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
6. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
7. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies
8. Perform all formal requirements associated with safety and good working practice in the research laboratory.
9. Complete risk assessments for all the research activities undertaken.
10. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging research group meetings, maintaining research group website.
11. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments.
12. Flexibility to travel to and present at, scientific meetings and collaborators' laboratories as required.
13. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager, which fall within the general remit of the post.

### **Planning and Organising:**

1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes, contribute to research group planning.
2. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
3. Plan own day-to day activity within framework of the agreed research programme, including the ordering of relevant consumables/materials in the lab.
4. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group over work progress.

### **Resource Management Responsibilities:**

1. Ensure research resources are used in an 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 supervisor, colleagues, students and collaborators.

2. Communicate appropriately and effectively with lab colleagues on topics such as latest research findings/results within the group and field.
3. Join external networks to share information and ideas and help develop external collaborations, as appropriate.
4. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:**

1. \* Have or about to have a PhD in a biomedical field of laboratory-based research.
2. \* At least 3 years recent relevant research experience, to include:
  - Microbiological techniques/plating and enumerating bacteria, media preparation.
  - Culture of mycobacteria.
  - Assessing inhibitory effects of antimicrobials in culture.
  - Experience of critically appraising data.
3. Ability to supervise postgraduate/undergraduate students and visiting researchers in the laboratory.
4. Methodical approach to project management and meticulous in terms of experimental procedures and record keeping.
5. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
6. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
7. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
8. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
9. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
10. Strong ability to work independently from own initiative.
11. Excellent team working skills.
12. Ability to assess and organise resources.
13. Willing to work outside normal office hours if necessary, for the progress of the research project.
14. Prepared to travel and undertake work both nationally and internationally up to twice per annum when required.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA:**

1. Experience of the following:
  - Biofilm quantification
  - Cell culture
  - Infection of macrophages with bacteria
  - Standard biochemical lab assays eg RT-PCR and ELISA.