Candidate Information

Position: Research Technician
School/Department: Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research
Reference: 22/109762
Closing Date: Monday 23 May 2022
Salary: £24,871 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Monday 6 June 2022
Duration: Fixed term until 31/10/2024

JOB PURPOSE:

To undertake technical and analytical duties for clinical and research activities of the Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research, Precision Medicine Centre of Excellence (PMCoE).

Support experimental and analytical tissue based hybridisation investigations and Digital Pathology evaluations.

To provide support and perform core laboratory activities for the validation and standardisation of novel procedures, techniques and tests.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Assist in the processing clinical samples and perform core and technical, analytical and diagnostic services, including but not limited to tissue preparation ahead of testing, immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridisation technologies, as well as digital pathology support.
2. Responsible for analytical techniques, including but not limited to immunohistochemistry and in situ hybridisation assessed by digital pathology.
3. Learn other technologies related to the ones stated above for analysis or confirmation of analyses.
4. Responsible for own work under the direction of senior Tissue Hybridization & Digital Pathology Leads. This may include all aspects of the clinical, scientific & technical work, staff, equipment and quality system.
5. Responsible for maintaining accurate records of results in a manner that will enable them to be accessed and interpreted.
6. Ensure knowledge of all instrumentation and responsible for maintenance of the equipment.
7. Input data and update laboratory databases, as required.
8. Carry out appropriate digital image analyses, as required.
9. Run image analysis software in controlled experiments across tissue microarrays and tissue samples for the evaluation of biomarkers.
10. To assist data 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. Be cognisant of monitoring quality control of all the investigations performed and carry out analyses on a range of tests performed, taking remedial action when required and as directed by senior staff.
13. Carry out all of the above according to the existing procedures and Standard Operating Procedures of the PMCoE.
14. Provide a quality and efficient service and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the use of human tissue and digital pathology according to the Human Tissue Act 2004 and accreditation standards such as, CLIA, ISO18159(2012) and understand the ethical issues relating to digital pathology.
15. Document competency for all tasks undertaken, in line with laboratory policy.
16. Handle a range of data from tissue imaging projects and be responsible for supporting research staff in the management and handling of large data sets.
17. Participate in continuous professional development through appropriate training and annual appraisal.
18. Carry out any other duties which are appropriate to the post as may be reasonably requested by the supervisory team.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. *ONC/OND or NVQ Level 3 in biology, medical laboratory sciences or related subject (or equivalent).
2. *3 years relevant laboratory experience.
3. *Experience with IHC and FISH or other hybridisation technologies and/or tissue-based work.
4. Knowledge of biomedical science subjects.
5. Technical knowledge of cell/molecular biology.
6. Knowledge of relevant Health and Safety issues and of COSHH regulations.
7. Able to understand and follow SOPs.
8. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
9. Ability to develop and demonstrate standard equipment and techniques.
10. Ability to work within established procedures but with minimal supervision.
11. Ability to plan own work schedule responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities.
12. Problem solving skills.
13. Ability to provide standard guidance and advice to junior colleagues/students.
14. To participate in appropriate rotas as required, outside normal working hours.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. *BSc in biology, biomedical science, medical laboratory sciences or related subject.
2. *Experience in Molecular Technology.
3. *Basic experience in Digital Image Analysis.
4. *Experience with clinical samples for molecular analysis.
5. Working knowledge of relevant systems, equipment and processes.
6. Full understanding of EQA & IQA and their implications.