



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Wellcome-Wolfson Inst for Experimental Medicine
Reference:	23/111187
Closing Date:	Tuesday 19 September 2023
Salary:	£37,099 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 10 October 2023
Duration:	Fixed term until 31 July 2025

JOB PURPOSE:

To join the Ocular immunopathology research team led by Prof Mei Chen within the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine to work on a research project investigating microglial activation during ageing and in age-related macular degeneration. This study will employ a broad range of cell and molecular biological and immunological approaches to study mechanisms of retinal degenerative disease.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To be actively involved in the existing research programme as directed by the line manager and to ensure adequate planning and progression of the investigation so that the overall research objectives for the project are met.
2. Maintain up-to-date knowledge of the field of interest at the cutting edge and communicate same to the group.
3. Carry out experimental design and execution, critical evaluation of results, and interpretation using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
4. To analyse large omics datasets in relation to retinal degenerative diseases.
5. To evaluate retinal function and retinal pathology using a range of in vivo and in vitro techniques.
6. To present regular progress reports on research to members of the group, funding body or to external audiences to disseminate and publish research findings.
7. To prepare, in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
8. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
9. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s to ensure that projects are completed on time and within budget.
10. Carry out occasional undergraduate supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain* a PhD in cell biology, immunology, molecular biology, vision science, or a closely related area of biomedicine. *Must have completed PhD project and submitted thesis at the time of application.
2. Recent, hands-on, postgraduate research experience that will demonstrate relevant practical and laboratory skills for this project, including experience in cell biology or immunology using appropriate model systems.
3. Experience with genetic editing of cells using latest technologies such as CRISPR-Cas9, AAV, or lentivirus.
4. Evidence of a key role in publication in internationally recognised peer reviewed journals. This list should be commensurate with stage of career and experience.
5. Methodical approach to project management in regard to experimental procedures and record keeping.
6. Experience with supervising undergraduate or post-graduate students in a research lab.
7. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
8. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with industry, community groups etc.
9. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.

10. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
11. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
12. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
13. Ability to assess and organise resources.
14. Evidence of displaying initiative and independence in thought and work.
15. Ability to work within a highly collaborative team and support/train other team members as appropriate.
16. Must demonstrate a clear interest in the area of research and show commitment to the specific research topic.
17. Must be prepared to work outside normal office hours.
18. Must be willing to travel to national and international meetings.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. PhD in retinal cell biology or immunology.
2. A wide range of experience on cell biology and molecular biology approaches including cell, culture, microscopy, western blotting, qPCR etc.
3. Experience in in vivo and in vitro models of retinal disease.
4. Evidence of having presented at conferences (poster and/or oral presentations).
5. Background or research interests which are compatible with the post.