

Candidate Information

Position:	Technician - Biologist, Future Medicines Institute
School/Department:	School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Reference:	25/112364
Closing Date:	Monday 10 February 2025
Salary:	£30,948 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 25 February, 2025
Duration:	Fixed Term - 12 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The newly funded Future Medicines Institute (FMI) will be a collaborative innovation centre developed as a focal point to enable industry, academia and health professionals to drive research and development in the Life and Health Sciences (LHS) sector. It will build upon and exploit Northern Ireland's recognised capabilities and strengths in oncology and digital health to accelerate the development of biomarker-led products. The Institute's vision is a partnership of Northern Ireland's leading pharmaceutical, diagnostics and health analytics companies, alongside academic institutions and government agencies.

To work as an active member of a multi-disciplinary team within the FMI Institute undertaking activities in small molecule screening and target validation. The successful candidate will be responsible for supporting the screening of small molecule induced proximity libraries and probes, running and managing critical lab equipment and databases in close collaboration with FMI screening and medicinal chemistry group.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Be responsible for the maintenance and servicing of key laboratory equipment and general lab tidiness.
2. Maintain supplies and stock levels within the FMI laboratory.
3. Be responsible for the optimisation and smooth operation of key laboratory equipment. Liaise with stakeholders for use and booking of equipment.
4. Assist in the design and implementation of biochemical and cellular screening assays for testing of small molecules.
5. Perform screening assays and interpret the results using appropriate methodologies and techniques.
6. Liaise closely with other members of the FMI team.
7. Maintain collaborative links with project partners. Keep key project stakeholders informed on a regular basis of all relevant developments.
8. Maintain accurate record of results to allow accessibility and interpretation. Actively participate in discussions and concisely present/results plans in meetings.
9. Maintain a high level of modern biology techniques /drug discovery knowledge, skills and best practices. Attend training where appropriate to maintain and expand on expertise in the field.
10. Carry out administrative tasks to ensure projects are completed on time and within budget e.g. arranging research group meetings.
11. Maintain the highest standards of health and safety compliance.
12. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager, and which fall within the general remit of the post.
13. Assist in any way deemed appropriate to the overall success of the research objectives of the group and FMI.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Academic and/or vocational qualifications ie OND/ONC and/or NVQ level 3 in biomedical sciences, biochemistry, pharmacy or related subject (or equivalent).
2. At least 3 years in molecular/cell biology laboratory environment.
3. Experience in in vitro cell culture.
4. Experience in lab project supervision.

5. Experience of compound and/or stock management.
6. Good working knowledge of relevant Microsoft 365 applications.
7. Ability to contribute to required administrative processes.
8. Ability to communicate information clearly.
9. Ability to organise own work and plan and utilise resources effectively.
10. Able to work with minimal supervision. Proactive attitude.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience in lab automation.
2. Experience in working with industry partners
3. Experience in managing electronic databases.