Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant in Vascular Biology
School/Department:	School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Reference:	25/112828
Closing Date:	Monday 22 September 2025
Salary:	£35,136 - £38,013 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 3 October 2025
Duration:	Available until 26 March 2027

JOB PURPOSE:

To assist in the planning and delivery of research activities within the team of Dr. Guilherme Costa. We are seeking an enthusiastic and motivated individual to support projects focused on RNA biology in the context of blood vessel formation.

The successful candidate will play a key role in the team, conducting experiments, supporting a range of research projects, and contributing to laboratory organisation and procurement. This position is well suited to applicants with a meticulous work ethic and a collaborative, team-oriented approach to laboratory work. Applicants should clearly demonstrate these qualities in both their CV and interview.

The successful candidate will have access to a range of training and career development opportunities.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake basic research activities, including laboratory experiments, critical evaluation and interpretation of results, computer-based data analysis, and review of relevant literature, in consultation with the supervisor and postdoctoral researchers.
2. Present regular progress updates to team members and collaborators to communicate research findings.
3. Contribute to the preparation of research manuscripts and provide data for the development of research proposals.
4. Assist in the training and onboarding of new team members in general laboratory practices and specific methodologies.
5. Supervise and support BSc and MSc students in their research activities.
6. Perform routine administrative tasks as requested, such as organising research group meetings, maintaining lab inventories, and procuring reagents and materials.
7. Stay up to date with developments in the field by reading academic papers, journals, and textbooks.
8. Perform any other duties as assigned by the line manager, within the scope of the role.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. An honours degree in a subject relevant to the research activity (e.g., Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Biochemistry).
2. Relevant hands-on experience in at least 2 of the following:
   - Cell culture
   - Fluorescence microscopy
   - Protein work (e.g. protein expression, immunoprecipitation, Western blotting)
   - RNA work (e.g. RNA isolation, cDNA synthesis).
3. Ability to clearly communicate instructions detailed in protocols and manuals.
4. Ability to contribute to the development and optimisation of experimental methods.
5. Competence in staying up to date with emerging techniques and advancements in the field.
6. Meticulous approach to experimental procedures and excellent record keeping skills.
7. Strong ability to independently troubleshoot experimental protocols.
8. Ability to communicate scientific concepts and research findings clearly and effectively.
9. Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to collaborate with research colleagues and support staff.

10. Ability to engage and communicate effectively with both internal and external stakeholders.
11. Demonstrated intellectual ability.
12. Excellent organisational and time management skills.
13. Highly motivated, ambitious, and collaborative team player.
14. Strong problem-solving skills.
15. Willingness to work irregular hours, including evenings and weekends.
16. May be required to travel nationally and internationally to collaborative laboratories.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. MSc and/or PhD in biomedical sciences.
2. Knowledge of endothelial biology or RNA-protein interactions.
3. Original research publications in peer-reviewed journals commensurate with career stage.
4. Experience in staff training and student supervision.
5. Experience in research project management.
6. Experience in contributing to research proposal preparation and writing.
7. Experience in contributing to the preparation of research articles.
8. Previous experience in a similar research post, with evidence of protocol development and optimisation.
9. Knowledge of angiogenesis and RNA-binding proteins.
10. Participated with presentations at scientific meetings.
11. No objections to work with animals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal Enquiries to Dr Eleni Beli (E.Beli@qub.ac.uk)