

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow - Medicinal Chemistry
School/Department: School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Reference: 26/113564
Closing Date: Monday 7 September 2026
Salary: £42,972 - £51,270 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date: Monday 28 September 2026
Duration: 9 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To contribute as a proactive and dynamic member to a multi-disciplinary academic medicinal chemistry group towards the development of USP inhibitor. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design, planning, implementation and delivery of projects with a focus on the design and synthesis of small molecule core intermediates and libraries for biological screening.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Proactively design, synthesise and analyse bioactive molecules, intermediates and small molecule compound libraries for biological screening.
2. Utilise best practice methods for the efficient design, synthesis and purification of molecules, including parallel methods, where appropriate.
3. Conduct compound analytical data analysis, utilising NMR and LC-MS.
4. Conduct critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis / evaluation or library research in consultation with line manager/supervisor.
5. Maintain a high level of modern chemistry and medicinal chemistry, skills and best practices.
6. Present at regular journal clubs and share progress reports on research to members of the research group.
7. Actively participate in discussions and concisely present results/plans in project group meetings.
8. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging research group meetings.
9. Write up results and contribute to the production of research lab meeting presentations, manuscripts and future grant proposals.
10. Carry out undergraduate and post-graduate supervision/demonstrating/teaching duties as required.
11. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks and disseminate key finding, novel developments and best practice to the wider group.
12. Maintain the highest standards of HSE compliance.
13. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager, and which fall within the general remit of the post.
14. Keep key project stakeholders informed on a regular basis of all relevant developments.
15. Assist in any way deemed appropriate to the overall success of the research objectives of the group and the Cancer Research Centre.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Degree in Chemistry.
2. Have a relevant PhD (chemistry/medicinal chemistry).
3. Specific, relevant research experience to include:
 - Experience in design and synthesis of small molecules and/or compound libraries.
 - Experience in analytical techniques, such as NMR, HPLC and LC-MS.
 - Experience in compound data analysis.
 - Lab project supervision.
4. Ability to plan and manage own workload and contribute to requisite administrative tasks.
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. Ability to assess and organise resources according to adjusting priorities.
9. Team player, proactive and self starter, highly motivated and supportive of other team members.
10. Interest in driving research focussed programmes.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Have practical experience in synthetic organic chemistry and small molecule compound library generation.
2. Experience in synthetic organic chemistry or medicinal chemistry.
3. Experience in small molecule SAR exploration.
4. Experience in working within industry.