



Job Title: Research Assistant

Grade: 6

Salary: £32,546 to £37,174 per annum, pro rata

Department: Leicester Cancer Research Centre

Hours/Contract: Part-time (0.5FTE, 18.75 hours per week), fixed term contract until 30 June 2025

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 11451

Role Purpose

You will be involved in a team investigating the genomic landscape, novel therapeutic agents and mechanisms of drug resistance in haematological malignancies. The work will involve the assessment of novel therapeutics in cell lines and primary samples.

This post offers an exciting opportunity to work within an internationally recognised group involved in basic, clinical and translational cancer research. You will be based in the lab of Prof Dyer at the Henry Wellcome Building within the Ernest and Helen Scott Haematological Research Institute.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Principal Accountabilities:

- In consultation with PI, conduct a range of experiments to assess the effect of novel biomolecules on a panel of cell lines and primary samples using agreed techniques, novel approaches and/or models.
- Under guidance, undertake high-quality data analysis, regularly reporting on progress to both the line manager and other members of the group.
- Keep accurate research records, where appropriate to GCLP standards
- To summarise findings, record, and disseminate where appropriate to members of the research group
- Participate in general laboratory activities to ensure the efficient functioning of the lab including health and safety, attending lab meetings and other relevant meetings.
- To carry out literature searches within pre-specified parameters.
- Participate in collaborative research, both within and outside the research group, interacting effectively with others in order to efficiently achieve the major project objectives
- To communicate and collaborate with others assisting in the development and refinement of methods and to receive training in the use of relevant experimental techniques

Professional Development:

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the overall success of the research programme.





Internal and External Relationships

- To be responsible to the line manager and senior research staff of the team
- Communicate and liaise with colleagues involved in the above mentioned research programme and other projects and the team is undertaking, on a regular basis to review and plan research activities.
- Communicate and liaise with research collaborators and stakeholder under the instruction of your line manager
- To assist in the technical training of undergraduate, postgraduate students and visiting workers in key laboratory techniques and use of equipment on an ad hoc basis.
- Liaise with all Departmental members regarding the use of laboratory facilities and resources, personally dealing with varied requests and issues arising within the laboratory and referring more complex issues to senior colleagues.

Planning and Organising

- With guidance from the Principle Investigator, or equivalent, plan own work and prioritise research and project/laboratory activities on a regular basis, including co-ordinating resources and maintenance of samples and equipment.
- The post-holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the research programme with the support of their line manager.
- Attend suitable training courses or equivalent and be proactive in terms of continued professional development.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Evidence of Honours degree and/or relevant experience *
- Practical experience and knowledge of applying research skills and techniques to deliver outputs on time and to the required quality.
- Knowledge of good laboratory practice and laboratory safety issues.*
- Significant experience of working in a biochemical research laboratory.*
- Experience in mammalian cell culture and cell killing assays using bispecific T-cell engagers*
- Experience of handling clinical material or primary patient tissues*
- Experience in multicolour flow cytometry and analysis of complex panel*

Desirable

- Masters qualification or a PhD in appropriate discipline
- Experience in protein-protein interaction analysis*
- Experience in expression and purifying bispecific T-cell engagers
- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) training
- Knowledge of the use of FlowJo and R package for data analysis





Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to demonstrate research potential and enthusiasm for the subject area and contribute to delivering high quality research *
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills *
- Good attention to detail and ability to ensure that tasks are undertaken to a high standard*
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal*
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules*
- Effective interpersonal skills.
- Effective planning and organisational skills.
- Ability to keep strict records
- Team player, support broader research group
- Commitment to continuous professional development (CPD)

Desirable

- Immunisation against HepB

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values





Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

