

**Job Title:** Scientific Officer; Leicester Cardiovascular Bioresource (LCB)  
**Grade:** 6  
**Salary:** £28,331 to £32,817 per annum  
**Department:** Cardiovascular Sciences  
**Hours/Contract:** Full-time fixed term contract for 12 months  
**Reference:** 1944

## Role Purpose

To carry out the collection, storage and retrieval of samples from patients and controls collected under the NIHR Leicester Biomedical Research Centre- Cardiovascular Theme (BRC) in Cardiovascular disease and to perform laboratory analysis of genetic, protein and cellular biomarkers.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

Specific scientific activities:

- Isolation of DNA, RNA, plasma and serum from samples collected within the BRC. Retrieval and processing of stored samples as requested by BRC (Cardiovascular theme) research staff (managed through BRC LCB lead)
- Monitoring of freezers and management of freezer breakdowns (including being on call out of hours)
- Processing of DNA from blood samples for genotypic analysis
- Genotyping and genomic analysis
- Laboratory analysis of biomarkers
- Maintaining LIMS computer-based records of samples collected and analysed within the BRC (Cardiovascular theme)
- Work to and ensure GCP compliance

Additional duties:

- Support other research staff and research students involved in collection and processing of samples within the BRC
- Conduct risk assessments and help in developing SOPs
- Work within agreed SOPs and ensuring safe practices for handling biological samples are adhered to
- Maintain stocks of reagents and materials needed for the LCB
- Ensure that the LCB laboratories are kept in good order and are a safe working environment for all staff using the facility

Other activities:

- Training and personal development
- To attend relevant meetings and research seminars as directed by line manager(s)



- Any other duties appropriate to the post

### Internal and External Relationships

#### Internal

Working closely with all staff and students within the BRC, including research nurses, doctors, data managers, and research students.

Working as part of the BRC team.

Supervising and working closely with LCB laboratory technicians to manage daily biobanking activities

Working closely with the BRC (Cardiovascular theme) informatics team to manage inputting of sample data, sample tracking and retrieval through the dedicated Lab Information System within the BRC.

Interacting with staff and students within the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences.

Interacting with University and UHL Trust staff in relation to sample collection from patients and healthy controls.

#### External

Liaising with hospital-based staff relevant to the BRC and to BRC-based studies.

Interaction with external research contractors where appropriate (e.g. for commercially sponsored studies).

Contacting equipment manufacturers and dealing with service contractors for equipment maintenance.

### Planning and Organising

Oversee the laboratory areas and equipment and storage systems within the LCB to ensure that they are maintained as per the required standard (automated laboratory systems, centrifuges, haematology analyser, fridges and freezers, etc). Value of equipment in excess of £700,000.

Responsible for day-to-day work plans as agreed with the line manager.

### Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

#### **Essential**

- An honours degree or equivalent in a relevant biological subject\*
- Experience of working within a biosciences laboratory environment\*
- Experience of processing blood samples\*
- Experience in extracting and analysing DNA\*
- Experience of handling human biological samples\*
- Knowledge of health and safety within a biosciences laboratory environment\*

#### **Desirable**





- Experience of working to GCP (12 months min) and/or HTA regulations
- Previous involvement in clinical studies\*
- Experience of working with databases and laboratory information management systems (LIMS)\*
- Experience of training and supervising staff or students in a laboratory
- Experiences of writing, maintaining & working to SOPs
- Experience of high throughput DNA extraction on automated systems such as the QIASymphony SP
- Experience of using haematology analysers
- Experience of biomarker analysis
- Experience of use of automated laboratory systems (such as those supplied by Brookes, Qiagen or CyBio)
- Experience of working with large data sets in Excel

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Good written and oral communication skills\*
- Ability to work well in a team
- Effective interpersonal skills
- Ability to plan, implement and deliver programmes of work to agreed deadlines
- Evidence of continued personal development of subject expertise
- Ability to communicate complex information clearly
- Effective planning and organisational skills
- Effective data management skills

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

## 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.

## Research Passport Requirements

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS indemnity arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, including occupational health clearance.

## VITAL





The University encourages all staff to live our [VITAL values](#) which are:

**Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.**

## Equality and Diversity

We believe that equality, 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 equality 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 equality, diversity and inclusion.

