

Job Profile

Job Description

Job Details		
Job Title:	Research Technician	
School/Dept/Institute & Centre:	Blizard Institute, Centre for Cell Biology and Cutaneous Research	
Reports to:	Dr Cleo Bishop	
Grade:	Grade 2	Full Time
Appointment period:	1 Year	
Current Location:	Whitechapel	

Job Context

This post is funded by the Proof-of-Concept award to support an exciting new project to perform high-throughput compound screening to uncover novel pro-senescence therapeutics for breast cancer. This post will be based within the group of Cleo Bishop and will utilise our state of the art Phenotypic Screening Facility (<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/research/lab-management-and-core-facilities/phenotypic-screening-facility/>), which is managed by dedicated facility staff and houses liquid handling robotics and automated high content microscopes. The post holder will be supported and work closely with the Facility. Key strengths include development of established workflows for high-throughput phenotypic compound screening and cancer biology. This project will also benefit directly from strong links with the Dundee Drug Discovery Unit (<http://drugdiscovery.dundee.ac.uk/>) and engagement with industry.

The Bishop group is based at The Blizard Institute, one of the largest of the 6 Institutes (~ 900 staff and students) that together comprise the School of Medicine and Dentistry. We aim to deliver excellence in all aspects of research, teaching and clinical service. The research of the Institute is based upon focussed programmes of basic, clinical and translational programmes of research activity targeted to selected areas of clinical excellence in partner NHS organisations, in particular Barts Health NHS Trust. Programmes of research within the Centres are directed towards improved diagnosis and targeted treatment strategies.

Job Purpose

- To provide technical support and assist with research on specific projects, as well as other areas of related projects, as required and as determined by the principal investigator.
- To contribute to the overall scientific endeavour of the Centre and work closely with other researchers involved in similar projects.
- To work as part of a research team, being mutually supportive and covering duties as necessary during colleagues' absences and at times of additional pressure, as directed.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

General Duties

1. To assist in the execution of experiments.
2. To collect and analyse data as directed.
3. To keep an up-to-date record of the results obtained during the project, and to be ready to present regularly the data to the supervisors/principal investigators and to other colleagues in the group.
4. To assist with the completion of an end-of-project report summarising the results of the studies.
5. To assist with the preparation of general reports and scientific publications to disseminate results from the programme of research.
6. To attend in the Centre's academic activities, e.g. research-in-progress, seminars, laboratory meetings.
7. To keep up to date with scientific and professional issues, in particular developments in the specific subject area.
8. To undertake certain communal laboratory responsibilities (including washing and cleaning duties).
9. To show a professional attitude to matters of laboratory hygiene, organisation and safety, and to observe and to take an active role in fulfilling all statutory health and safety regulations.
10. To be aware of own limitations and refer problems to the appropriate person.
11. Assist with the training of new members of staff and students, in appropriate laboratory techniques
12. Establish and maintain relationships in order to work with researchers and academics in own team.

Other

13. To ensure full awareness of, and compliance with, the College's/Trust's policies and procedures in relation to confidentiality, health and safety at work, COSHH regulations, infection control, safe handling of drugs, and all local safety rules regarding fire, chemical, radioisotope and gene manipulation hazards.
14. The postholder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the College's Equal Opportunities policy.

The above list of responsibilities is not exhaustive and the jobholder may be required to undertake other duties commensurate with the level of the role, as reasonably requested by their line manager.

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or level of the responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot in themselves justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

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Person Specification

This table lists the essential and desirable requirements needed in order to perform the job effectively. Candidates will be shortlisted based on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

	Requirements	Essential / Desirable	How Assessed
Qualifications	BSc or equivalent in a biological or related science	D	A
	GCSE in relevant subjects or equivalent vocational qualifications	E	A
	MSc or MRes in a biological or related science	D	A
Knowledge, Skills and Experience	Experience of mammalian cell culture	E	A
	Computer literacy including word processing, excel, powerpoint and literature searches	E	A
	Experience of cell culture in 384-well plate format	D	A
	Experience of liquid handling robotics	D	A
	Experience of immunohistochemistry techniques	D	A
	Experience of fluorescent/Confocal microscopy	D	A
	Experience of high content image analysis	D	A
	Laboratory bench skills	E	A
	Knowledge of laboratory procedures, materials, equipment	E	A I
	Ability to follow written and oral instructions	E	I
	Ability to maintain good laboratory records	E	A I
	Ability to work accurately	E	A I
	Evidence of good team-working	E	I
	Enthusiasm for understanding the research process	E	A I
	Ability to prioritise and organise own workload	E	A I
	Understanding of H&S Regulations	E	A I
Well developed written and verbal communication skills	E	I	
Attitude and Disposition	Flexible and co-operative	E	I
	Self-motivated	E	I
	Hardworking and excellent attention to detail	E	I
	Willingness to learn new skills	E	I

Essential/Desirable:

E = Essential: Requirements without which the job could not be done.

D = Desirable: Requirements that would enable the candidate to perform the job well.

How Assessed:

A = Application

I = Interview

OM = Other Means (e.g. presentation, test, etc.)