



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician in Vascular Biology, Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 6 (£26,495 - £31,604 p.a.)

Reference: MHLCM1130

Closing date: 15 December 2017

Open to internal applicants in the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Leeds

Fixed-term for 2 years and available from 1 February 2018

Research Technician in Vascular Biology

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular & Metabolic Medicine

Do you have a background and experience in laboratory studies of physiology and disease? Do you want to contribute to and work as part of a vibrant research team? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

You will make a significant contribution to work being carried out to advance the understanding of vascular metabolism in the context of cardiovascular health and disease. Working within a research team led by [Dr Richard Cubbon](#), you will show initiative in learning, refining and developing relevant experimental techniques, generating ideas, proposing hypotheses and solving practical and intellectual problems.

You will have a BTEC National Certificate or Diploma / Degree, or equivalent, in a biological or biomedical related discipline. You will also have a strong background in murine and laboratory studies of physiology and disease.

What does the role entail?

As Research Technician, your main duties will include:

- Responsibility for planning and organising a programme of animal facility and laboratory work to ensure that experimental goals are delivered according to an agreed timetable;
- Responsibility for day-to-day management of murine colonies for vascular function and atherosclerosis studies (including histological analysis);
- Independently performing and analysing aortic vascular tone studies using organ bath apparatus;
- Responsibility for isolation and in vitro assessment of murine endothelial cells, focussing on cellular metabolism;
- Providing technical input into future experimental design, problem-solving and advising on application of specialist techniques and equipment to other staff and students;



- Liaising effectively and pro-actively maintaining contacts with colleagues across different laboratories and academic units within the Institute and national/international collaborators, ensuring that information is cascaded appropriately;
- Contributing to the safe and well organised functioning of the laboratory including stock-taking and ordering of reagents;
- Responsibility for planning and management of resources, preparing project plans, ensuring good progress of work and keeping detailed records;
- Willingness to prepare, collate and present data to other members of the research group and attend research group meetings;
- Willingness to be trained in new laboratory techniques.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

You will report to Dr Richard Cubbon, British Heart Foundation Intermediate Clinical Fellow and University Academic Fellow.

What will you bring to the role?

As Research Technician you will have:

- Minimum BTEC National Certificate or Diploma / Degree, or equivalent, in a biological or biomedical related discipline;
- A proven ability to independently isolate and culture murine endothelial cells, and use these to probe metabolic pathways;
- A proven ability to independently perform murine aortic vascular tone studies, including tissue collection, using organ bath apparatus, and data analysis;
- Experience of performing standard histological techniques;
- A proven ability to design and undertake a programme of experimental work to address focussed scientific questions and to deliver objectives according to pre-specified goals;
- Effective practical skills at the laboratory bench and familiarity with safety regulations;
- A Home Office Personal License and ongoing willingness to perform murine studies;



- Computer skills including the experience of GraphPad Prism, ImageJ, Excel and PowerPoint software;
- Good written and verbal communications skills;
- Good time management skills and ability to adhere to deadlines;
- A capacity to work effectively both individually and as part of a team, including with external collaborators;
- The ability to show initiative and judgement to resolve problems and provide specialist technical input where necessary.

You may also have previous experience of:

- Small-vessel wire myography;
- Small-vessel pressure myography;
- Confocal microscopy and associated immunofluorescence studies.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the 15 December 2017.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Dr Richard Cubbon, British Heart Foundation Intermediate Clinical Fellow and University Academic Fellow.

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 0785

Email: r.cubbon@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#).

Find out more about [Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine \(LICAMM\)](#).

Find out more about [Division of Cardiovascular and Diabetes Research](#)



Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Security checks

This post will be subject to appropriate security checks being carried out with your permission by a third party company.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records information](#).

