



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician, Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,025 – £32,236 per annum) A maximum of £27,830 p.a. can only be offered due to funding restrictions

Reference: MHLCM1189

Closing date: 27 August 2019

Interviews will be held after 11 September 2019

Fixed-term for 12 months

Research Technician

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine

Are you Research Technician looking for a new challenge? Do you have an interest in cardiovascular disease and regenerative medicine? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

A Research Technician is required to support the work in Leeds as part of the BHF-funded Oxbridge Centre for Regenerative Medicine (CRM). You will be establishing and providing surgical animal models for the study of cardiovascular disease and regeneration, and perform routine MRI phenotyping experiments on these models. The project, which is initially funded for 12 months with the scope for extension by 3 years, will be carried out at the the Experimental and Preclinical Imaging Centre (*ePIC*), which is a British Heart Foundation funded preclinical imaging facility. The facility has the latest generation of multi-modal imaging equipment, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) 7 Tesla, positron emission tomography (PET) / single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT)/computed tomography (CT), optical imaging, ultrasound, micro computed tomography (μ CT), and a state-of-the-art surgical suite.

Working closely with a multi-disciplinary research team, including medical physicists with particular expertise in MRI, clinicians and basic scientists, you will support the Oxbridge CRM research programme in cardiac regeneration at *ePIC*. Specific duties will include the supply of animals and/or samples derived from rodent (mouse; neonatal and adult) heart injury/regeneration models myocardial infarction, as well as routine MRI imaging and data analysis. Training for all aspects will be provided as required.

You will have a BSc and Masters (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline such as (but not limited to) physiology, cardiovascular sciences, medical imaging or similar and direct practical experience of surgical small animal models. A Home Office Personal license (Modules 1-4) is also essential.



What does the role entail?

As Research Technician, your main duties will include:

- Responsibility for planning and organising a programme of laboratory work to ensure that experimental goals are delivered according to an agreed timetable;
- Responsibility for problem-solving and making independent decisions relating to the short- to medium-term delivery of the research projects, with the support of the principal investigator when required;
- Performing surgical procedures required to create rodent models of cardiac disease, injury and repair. A full period of training will be provided, after which it is expected that the post holder will perform the surgery independently.
- Post-operative care of animals, which have undergone surgical procedures and assessment in line with the Home Office Licence regulations and personal licence requirements.
- Colony Management and ensuring accurate data is maintained.
- Process samples in line with surgical procedures.
- Performing in vivo physiological and ex vivo imaging experiments independently in accordance with standard protocols e.g. MRI, MRS, ECG.
- The maintenance of breeding colonies with adequate documentation including genotyping;
- The analysis of imaging data and entering into a database or spreadsheet;
- Providing technical input into future experimental design 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 ensure that information is cascaded appropriately to other research workers;
- Contributing to the safe and well organised functioning of the preclinical imaging centre, including the imaging suites, and day-to-day laboratory housekeeping.
- 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.
- Provide feedback to the principal investigators on service usage, stock utilisation and to discuss progress and future plans.



- Willingness to be trained in new laboratory techniques.
- Carrying out the role in accordance with current relevant legislation.

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.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Technician, you will have:

- BSc and Masters (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline such as (but not limited to) physiology, cardiovascular sciences, medical imaging or similar;
- Previous laboratory experience in some of the duties and responsibilities listed above;
- A Home Office Personal license (Modules 1-4);
- Demonstrable experience in animal husbandry and in performing licenced procedures on murine/rat models;
- 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;
- Computer skills including the experience in Excel, Word, PowerPoint, database software, statistical analysis;
- Strong written and verbal communications skills;
- A proven ability to work effectively both individually and as part of a team;
- Ability to show initiative and judgement to resolve problems;
- Able to work independently, developing new techniques where necessary;
- Able to provide specialist technical input into the development of research objectives and proposals.
- A flexible approach to time management when necessary, to fulfil the needs of the research project;
- Good record keeping



You may also have:

- Experience of surgical models of injury in rodents
- Experience of working with animals in a scientific environment
- Experience in performing in vivo phenotyping experiments
- Experience in intravenous injection (iv) and intraperitoneal injection (ip) injections in murine models;
- Experience in blood sampling techniques in rodent models;
- Evidence of an ability to write to a standard required for research reports/publications.

How to apply

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

Contact information

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

Professor Jurgen Schneider, Professor in Biomedical Imaging

Email: J.E.Schneider@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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

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

Find out more about our Research and associated facilities within [Division of Biomedical Imaging](#).



Working at Leeds

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in our [Working at Leeds](#) information.

Candidates with disabilities

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

Security checks

Appointment to 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 (Exceptions) Order 1975

This post requires a standard criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to the University being satisfied with the outcome of these checks, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

