



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician, Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's,
Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 4 (£19,612 – £22,417 p.a.)

Reference: MHCAP1170

Closing Date: 03 November 2019

Fixed-term for 12 months commencing 2nd January 2020

Full time post (part time also considered)

We are happy to consider job share applications and are committed to flexible working for all our employees.

Research Technician

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's

Division of Pathology & Data Analytics

Can you provide technical support to research studies? Do you have excellent analytical, organisational and time-management skills? Do you have technical skills in histology?

Funded by CRUK, you will work as part of a technical team providing laboratory support for the oesophageal and gastric cancer (Upper GI) research team within the Division of Pathology and Data Analytics. You will provide support to our research activities, investigating prognostic and predictive factors in Upper GI cancer analysing digitised histological slides.

With a BTEC Higher National Certificate or equivalent, and relevant laboratory experience (which can include a period of study), you will have experience in histological techniques. Training in specific laboratory techniques will be provided if necessary.

This post is based within the School of Medicine, Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's. The post is located in the Wellcome Trust Brenner building at St. James's University Hospital.

What does the role entail?

As Research Technician, your main duties will include:

- Recovering blocks and slides from the Histology archives locally as well as from other cities in the UK, sectioning of tissue blocks (FFPE); histological staining of prepared tissue sections;
- Recording entry and exit of samples into the laboratory using computer based tracking;
- Preparing stained tissue sections for scanning, quality control of scanning, maintaining a cross-reference and tracking database.
- Working with little day-to day direction outside regular one-to-one supervision meetings; this will include managing your own workload and deciding the order in which tasks are completed in line with the project milestones and plans;



- Maintaining equipment such as tissue microarray maker, microtome and microscope; maintaining a clean and tidy environment in the laboratories, complying with departmental safety procedures (including Control of Substances Hazardous to Health - COSHH);
- Communicating straightforward information on a day to day basis to members of the team, assisting staff and students in the use of equipment according to standard operating procedures;
- Learning new skills and attending training courses for continued professional development.

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 Professor Heike Grabsch, Principal Investigator / Mrs Gemma Hemmings, Senior Laboratory Manager.

What will you bring to the role?

As Research Technician you will have:

- A BTEC Higher National Certificate or equivalent qualification in a relevant subject, or equivalent relevant technical experience;
- Experience in histology including preparation and review of tissue sections;
- The ability to work effectively in a team and unsupervised when necessary, with direction from the supervisor and Principal Investigator.
- Good organisational and time management skills demonstrating judgement in planning and carrying out research work to meet deadlines;
- Ability to work to a high level of accuracy and with attention to detail, and to maintain up to date records.
- Good written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills;
- Computer literacy with experience of using Microsoft Office programmes, in particular Excel and Access;
- An understanding of Health and Safety requirements within the laboratory.
- A knowledge of the Human Tissue Act, Good Clinical Laboratory Practice (GCLP) and Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) guidelines.



You may also have:

- Experience of analysing results/data;
- Experience in image analysis;
- Database skills;

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:

Mrs Gemma Hemmings, Senior Laboratory Manager

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8634

Email: g.j.hemmings@leeds.ac.uk

OR

Professor Heike Grabsch

Email: H.I.Grabsch@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

Find out more about [Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's](#)

The Institute and its facilities are predominantly based on the [St James's University Hospitals Campus](#) although some team are also located on the [University of Leeds' main campus](#).

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.

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 page.

