



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician, Gastrointestinal Cancer Research Group
Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 5 (£23,067 – £26,715 per annum)

Reference: MHLRM1000

Closing date: 27 February 2020

Full time 100% fte

Fixed-term for 3 years

Research Technician in Gastrointestinal Cancer Research Group

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's

Can you provide technical support to research projects? Do you have a strong interest in gastrointestinal cancer and a working knowledge of molecular pathology?

Working independently using knowledge of specialised techniques, you will provide molecular pathology support for a highly productive research group investigating prognostic and predictive factors in gastrointestinal cancer.

With a degree or higher level BTEC, or equivalent, you will have significant relevant laboratory experience. The ability to manage your time effectively and work under pressure is essential, along with effective interpersonal, communication, and team working skills.

What does the role entail?

As Research Technician your main duties will include:

- Managing and prioritising your own day to day workload to plan and conduct experiments whilst working with minimal supervision;
- Working independently to carry out a range of immunohistochemical, nucleic acid/protein extraction and PCR based methods, as well as design and construction of tissue microarrays;
- Using your knowledge of specialised histological techniques to review H&E stained pathology slides and using your own judgement to mark tumour and normal areas for microdissection and tissue microarray construction; undertaking assessment of slides for tumour cell density;
- Maintaining a proactive approach to the research project, inputting ideas and providing flexible technical support and relevant training to staff and students based on their needs;
- Liaising effectively and pro-actively maintaining contact with colleagues across the team and ensuring that information is cascaded appropriately;



- Contributing to the safe and well organised functioning of the laboratory, promoting good working practices within the team and within the Institute, writing COSHH assessments when appropriate and ensuring Health and Safety compliance; ensuring all work is carried out according to HTA and GCLP guidelines;
- Maintaining good records and laboratory notebooks of work carried out, including providing clear understandable data to other members of the research group where necessary;
- Preparing and updating standard operating procedures and provide technical support updates to other members of the team;
- Using a working knowledge of university purchasing systems and guidelines to ensure adequate stocks of research supplies, procurement and appropriate maintenance of specialised equipment;
- Providing feedback to the chief investigator on service usage, stock utilisation and to discuss progress and future plans;
- A willingness to be trained in new techniques and undertake additional training as required.

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 Research Technician you will have:

- A degree, or BTEC higher level (or equivalent);
- Experience of Histological and Molecular biology techniques;
- Experience of working in a laboratory environment and familiarity with safety regulations;
- A proven ability to work both independently and as part of a team, using your initiative and solving problems to perform technically demanding tasks with care and precision;
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills with an ability to analyse, record and communicate information clearly;
- Excellent time management skills and ability to adhere to deadlines;
- Computing skills including the experience of Microsoft Office package.



You may also have:

- Previous experience of bowel cancer research;
- Previous experience of providing laboratory supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students;
- RSci (Registered Scientist) or RSci Tech (Registered Science Technician) qualification from IST.

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:

Gemma Hemmings, Laboratory Manager

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8510

Email: g.j.hemmings@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's 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.

