



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Arthroscopica Research Technician, Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511 – £32,817 p.a.)

Reference: MHLRM1122

Closing date: 14 November 2019

Fixed-term until 31 May 2020, 40% FTE

Arthroscopica Research Technician

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine

Can you provide technical support to research projects and do you have extensive laboratory experience which includes skills in mesenchymal stem cell (MSC) isolation by FACS sorting, multi-parameter flow cytometry, colony-forming unit-fibroblast (CFU-F) assay, holographic microscopy and qPCR?

Applications are invited for the post of Research Technician to work in the Section of Experimental Rheumatology in the Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine. You will be responsible for the collection and processing of human bone and bone marrow samples from the theatre; expanding MSCs in culture following FACS purification, performing CFU-F assay to quantify viable MSCs, assessing their proliferative capacity at the single-cell level using integrated density analysis and holographic imaging, and performing gene expression studies using 48.48 chip/Integrated Fluid Circuit (IFC) technology.

Applicants should hold a first degree in a relevant biological science or pharmacy and have previous relevant research experience in biomedical science or biomedical engineering. 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 an Arthroscopica 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;
- Responsibility for collection and processing of human bone and bone marrow samples from the theatre; expanding MSCs in culture following FACS purification, performing CFU-F assay to quantify viable MSCs, assessing their proliferative capacity at the single-cell level using integrated density analysis and holographic imaging, and performing gene expression studies using 48.48 chip/Integrated Fluid Circuit (IFC) technology;



- 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 laboratory;
- 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.

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 Elena Jones, Associate Professor in Stem Cell Biology.

What will you bring to the role?

As an Arthroscopica Research Technician you will have:

- BSc in biological, biomedical sciences or pharmacy and MRes (Master of Research) in biomedical sciences or biomedical engineering or equivalent;
- Experience of techniques: processing of human bone and bone marrow samples from the theatre; expanding MSCs in culture following FACS purification, performing CFU-F assay to quantify viable MSCs, assessing their proliferative capacity at the single-cell level using integrated density analysis and holographic imaging, and performing gene expression studies using 48.48 chip/Integrated Fluid Circuit (IFC) technology;
- 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 of Microsoft Excel, SPSS, Graphpad PRISM and Cluster;
- Good written and verbal communication skills;
- Good time management skills and ability to adhere to deadlines;
- A capacity 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.

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:

Dr Elena Jones, Associate Professor in Stem Cell Biology

Tel: +44 (0)113 20-65647

Email: E.Jones@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 our [Institute](#).

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).

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

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.

