



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

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



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511 – £32,817 per annum)

Reference: MHLMR1001

Closing date: 11 December 2019

Fixed-term for 18 months

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

Research Assistant

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's

Are you an early career researcher looking for your first challenge? Do you have a background in haematological malignancies or flow cytometry? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

As the Dickinson Clinical Trial Research Assistant you will have a first degree and **may** have or be nearing completion of a Masters/PhD. You will be part of a team focussed on the diagnosis, disease monitoring and associated translational research in national clinical trials for Waldenström Macroglobulinemia. You will be responsible for day to day flow cytometric and molecular analysis and providing general support within busy teaching and research laboratories.

The work involves handling and processing of biological samples, extraction of RNA and DNA from various biological sample types, analysis of samples using multicolour flow cytometry panels as well as gathering and analysing the data for presentation and publication with appropriate guidance, and contribute to general laboratory maintenance.

You will be responsible for the accurate maintenance of all samples, records and findings, working in line with standard operating procedures, information governance, defined protocols and ethical guidelines. As agreed with the research team, you will organise your own workload, and work both independently and as a part of the team, liaising with colleagues and staff within the University and the NHS.

You will be qualified to a degree level in a relevant subject or hold equivalent qualifications and have experience of a laboratory environment.

This is a new post funded by the Ella Dickinson Memorial Charitable Trust that will be available for 18 months on a full-time basis and be based in HMDS at St James's University Hospital, Bexley Wing, Leeds.



What does the role entail?

As Research Assistant your main duties will include:

- Handling and processing of biological samples from people with haematological malignancies;
- Extraction of RNA and DNA from various sample types for examples, peripheral blood, paraffin blocks and bone marrow aspirates;
- Analysis of samples using flow cytometry as well as gathering and analysing the data for presentation and publication with appropriate guidance;
- Archive and organise samples accurately;
- Work in line with standard operating procedures, information governance and ethical guidelines governing the study
- Writing reports, undertaking literature reviews and preparing papers for publication, with guidance as necessary;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Supporting research activities, including contributing to research results and outputs and to the generation of independent and original ideas, ensuring a successful programme of investigation;
- Participating in the research group and presenting research output where appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field.

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 Gina Doody, Associate Professor



What will you bring to the role?

As Research Assistant you will have:

- A first degree in the subject area or a closely allied discipline;
- Good understanding of biological concepts and processes;
- Understanding of haematology and/or cancer biology;
- Experience of good laboratory practice;
- Good laboratory skills including various molecular techniques;
- Experience of flow cytometry, particularly multi-parameter analysis;
- Experience of safe handling of human blood and tissue samples;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Well-developed analytical skills;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- The ability to work unsupervised and to use your own initiative.

You may also have:

- A Masters or PhD in the subject area or a closely allied discipline (may have or be nearing completion).

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 Gina Doody, Associate Professor

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8438; ext: 38438

Email: g.m.doody@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

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

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

Find out more about our Research and associated facilities.

[Dr Doody's research](#)

[HMDS](#)

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty.

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.

