



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Technician in Systemic Sclerosis,
Faculty of Medicine and Health**



Salary: Grade 5 (£23,067 – £26,715 p.a.)

Reference: MHLRM1124

Closing date: 3 January 2020

Fixed-term until 30 November 2020

Research Technician in Systemic Sclerosis

School of Medicine

Leeds Institute of Rheumatic & Musculoskeletal Medicine

Are you an experienced research technician with an excellent range of laboratory skills? Do you have excellent organisational skills and attention to detail? Do you want to be part of a successful, highly-talented and leading research team?

The purpose of this post is to provide cellular and molecular pathology support to projects focussed on the early events in the pathogenesis of Systemic Sclerosis. You will have relevant laboratory experience including FACS analysis, qRTPCR, ELISA, western blotting and immunofluorescence/immunohistochemistry techniques. The ability to manage your time effectively and work under pressure is essential, along with effective interpersonal, communication, and team working skills.

This full time post is available immediately on a fixed term basis and will be based at St James's University Hospital.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Technician in Systemic Sclerosis, your main duties will include:

- Liaising closely with the Principal Investigator (PI) and co-investigators to plan and conduct experiments whilst working with minimal supervision on a day-to-day basis;
- Working independently to carry out a range of tissue culture, nucleic acid/protein extraction, RNA and protein detection-based methods;
- Using knowledge of specialised Cell sorting techniques, and conduct FACS based cell analysis;
- Managing of sample analysis;
- Assisting in supervising/mentoring colleagues and students as appropriate;
- Evaluating methods, techniques and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to own work;
- Ensuring that all procedures are performed according to the standards and practices of the Institute and that legal and regulatory guidelines are followed;



- Active management of clinical trial material in the context of Human Tissue Act and ethical approval;
- Maintaining laboratory records including helping to manage clinical trials sample databases;
- Contributing to data collection suitable for publication;
- Making and contributing to decisions on day-to-day matters that affect own work and that of the team;
- Encouraging and promoting good working practices within the team and within the Institute, write COSHH assessments when appropriate and ensure Health and Safety compliance;
- Supporting and adhering to the Institute's commitment to Equality and Diversity;
- Maintaining continuous professional development and developing new research techniques/skills necessary for the project;
- Ensuring all work is carried out according to GCLP guidelines.

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 in Systemic Sclerosis you will have:

- A relevant BSc Degree;
- Experience of and willingness to handle clinical samples;
- Experience of tissue culture including the maintenance of cell lines, bringing up cell lines from liquid nitrogen and freezing them back down, treatment of cell lines using reagent-based techniques;
- Experience of Flow Cytometry and intracellular FACS analysis;
- Experience of DNA, RNA and protein extraction, PCR and protein based techniques and quality control of extracted nucleic acids and proteins;
- Computer Literacy in Microsoft applications such as Excel, Powerpoint and Word and use of PRISM;
- Evidence of an ability to work individually and in a research team;
- Effective interpersonal skills and good ability to communicate, including in writing and in presentations;
- Evidence of an ability to organise own work and to meet deadlines;



- A willingness to be trained in new techniques and undertake additional training as required.

You may also have:

- Experience of handling blood and skin patient samples;
- Relevant Master's degree;
- Experience of managing clinical trials sample tracking databases;
- Good background knowledge of Systemic Sclerosis, immunology or auto-immune diseases;
- Willingness to work flexibly, when necessary, to fulfil the needs of the research project;
- Knowledge of Human Tissue Act and ethical approval requirements in the context of the laboratory.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. 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 Francesco Del Galdo, Associate Professor, Translational Rheumatology
Lead, Scleroderma Research Programme**

Tel: +44 (0)113 3424879

Email: f.delgaldo@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Rebecca Ross, Research Manager, Scleroderma Research Programme.

Tel: +44 (0)113 3438415

Email: r.l.ross@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

Scleroderma Research Programme

This section undertakes translational research in Scleroderma and Raynaud's. Our focus is on translational research moving basic scientific advances into patient care usually within the content of clinical trials. We are part of the UKSSG and EUSTAR. We have substantial grant funding from NIHR as well as a growing range of companies.

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](#).

You will report to Dr Francesco Del Galdo, Associate Professor, Translational Rheumatology Lead and Dr Rebecca Ross, Research Manager, Scleroderma Research Programme.

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.



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: 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](#).

