



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Research Technician in Translational Skin Science Facility,  
Faculty of Medicine and Health**



**Salary: Grade 5 (£23,067 - £26,715 pro rata p.a.)**

**Reference: MHLRM1125**

**Closing date: 07 January 2020**

**Fixed-term for 2 years, part time (50% Full time equivalent)**

# **Research Technician in Translational Skin Science Facility (TSSF)**

## **School of Medicine**

## **Leeds Institute of Rheumatic & Musculoskeletal Medicine**

**Can you provide technical support to research projects as part of our TSSF? Do you have extensive laboratory experience which includes skills tissue culture and handling/processing human derived samples?**

We are seeking an enthusiastic and motivated individual to assist with all aspects of our skin biopsies and Bio-sample collection and processing activities as part of the Translational Skin Science Facility (TSSF). You will provide technical support for the research team, supporting our clinical trials tissue repository activities, through sample processing, tracking and dispatch.

With relevant laboratory experience in tissue culture, you will have exceptional interpersonal and communication skills. The successful applicant for this post will closely liaise with the comprising scientists, clinicians and nurses.

You will have a first degree in a relevant biological science and have previous relevant research experience in flow cytometry and handling, processing and cataloguing of human derived bio-samples, in particular blood and skin.

## **What does the role entail?**

As Research Technician in Translational Skin Science Facility, your main duties will include:

- Isolating and storing cells/serum/plasma/urine/DNA from patients' blood and tissue samples (may include attendance in theatre to collect fresh samples when necessary) from different dermo-rheumatology clinics for both in-house and commercial research (the Division may be participating in between 25-35 studies concurrently) in compliance with Human Tissue Act regulations and Departmental SOPs. This will involve liaising/coordinating with several members of the multidisciplinary team;
- Developing systems for collection and efficient processing/storage of blood and tissue samples, potentially from multiple sources and sites;



- Ensuring the timely acquisition, accession and processing of blood and tissue samples from a variety of sources;
- Cataloguing samples both physically in appropriate storage conditions (-80, -150 etc) and electronically via updating/maintaining databases tracking of samples. This will use of sample tracking software (ProCuro or any future alternate platform) for compliance with Human Tissue Act;
- Maintaining the integrity of the banked samples, and perform quality control checks;
- Contributing to the administration and smooth running of the lab including consent compliance, material transfer agreements, ordering related to tissue collection and distribution;
- Monitoring and maintain specified laboratory equipment;
- Retrieving archived diagnostic material for research purposes;
- Regularly reviewing and updating of SOPs;
- Treating data with confidentiality and in accordance with current policies;
- 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;
- Providing feedback to the principal investigators on service usage, stock utilisation and to discuss progress and future plans;
- Undertaking occasional travel outside of the Leeds area;
- Working flexibly in order to ensure lab is manned when clinics are operating which may mean working on University holidays, including being on freezer alarm call out list;
- 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

## What will you bring to the role?

As Research Technician in Translational Skin Science Facility you will have:

- A relevant first degree (or similar qualification);
- Experience in human tissue (particularly blood and/or skin) handling, processing and tracking, working to Standard Operating Procedures;





- Experience in bio-sample separation techniques including isolation of mononuclear cells;
- Experience of flow cytometry techniques;
- Previous experience working with clinical databases/complicated data, including the ability to record data with a high level of accuracy;
- Ability to work flexible to meet the needs of the Bio sample collection process to accommodate sample collections across CAH and SJUH sites and to contribute to the freezer call out rotas which may require occasional out of hours working;
- Good time management skills and ability to adhere to deadlines;
- A capacity to work effectively both individually and as part of a team;
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to liaise effectively and interact with a variety of researchers and health care professionals;
- Computer literate with word processing and presentation skills (e.g. PowerPoint) and database management (e.g. Excel/Access/ProCuro/Medical Achiever);
- Willingness to attend training courses for continued professional development.

You may also have:

- Understanding of the Human Tissue and Data Protection Acts;
- Knowledge of IATA regulations for shipment of Bio-Samples and experience of working with courier services for dispatch of these samples at either ambient or frozen temperatures;
- Purchasing and management of laboratory consumables.

## 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 Francesco Del Galdo** email: [f.delgaldo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:f.delgaldo@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](mailto: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.

