



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Reproduction and Embryology, Faculty of Medicine and Health



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.) (A maximum of £35,845 can be offered due to funding restrictions).

Reference: MHL1212

Closing date: 19 January 2020

Fixed term for 6 months.

Research Fellow in Reproduction and Embryology

Faculty of Medicine and Health

Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular & Metabolic Medicine

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in reproductive biology and embryology, micromanipulation, microfluidics and single cell functional genomic analysis of reproductive cells? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities?

We are looking to recruit a full time Research Fellow to conduct high quality laboratory research on a new translational research project funded by a MRC Confidence in Concept Grant. The research will investigate the potential of microfluidic culture technology as a means to improve the efficiency of preimplantation embryo production following the use of assisted reproduction technologies in domestic animals and humans.

The funding for this project has been awarded to Prof Helen Picton, who leads the Reproduction and Early Development Research Group within the Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine (LICAMM) in the School of Medicine at the University of Leeds. The project will be conducted in collaboration with Dr Virginia Pensabene from the School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering at the University of Leeds and Dr John Huntiss in LICAMM. The successful applicant will work under the supervision of Prof Picton.

Applicants should hold a PhD (or passed PhD with minor corrections at the point of application) in a subject relevant to reproductive biology and/or embryology which is supported by extensive laboratory experience and a broad technical skill base in assisted reproduction technologies, gamete and embryo culture, microfluidics, micromanipulation, metabolomics and single cell functional genomics of reproductive cells.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:



- Working with and in support of Prof Helen Picton's research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the field of reproductive biology, assisted reproductive technology, embryology, microfluidic culture, metabolomics, single cell functional genomic analysis of reproductive cells, and micromanipulation of oocytes and/or embryos.
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including, where appropriate preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Communicating or presenting research results through publication or other recognised forms of output;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 Professor Helen Picton, Professor in Reproduction and Early Development.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A first degree and PhD (or passed PhD with minor corrections at the point of application) in Reproductive Biology or a closely allied discipline;



- A strong background in reproductive biology, preimplantation embryology, metabolomics, single cell functional genomics, micromanipulation of oocytes and embryos;
- Experience of working with microfluidic culture technology
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research;
- Proven ability to write to the standard required for research reports/international publications;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Experience of working with time-lapse imaging and nanosensors;
- A track record of successful, high quality, presentation and publications in reproductive biology.

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:

Professor Helen Picton

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 7817

Email: H.M.Picton@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

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

Find out more about [Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine \(LICAMM\)](#).

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.

