



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

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



Salary: Grade 5 (£23,067 – £26,715 per annum)

Reference: MHLMR1011

Closing date: 3 March 2020

Fixed-term for 30 months

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

Research Technician

Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's

Division of Haematology and Immunology

Can you provide technical support to research projects? Do you have a strong interest in translational medicine and a working knowledge of laboratory practice?

You will work as part of a team of scientists and clinicians interested in the translational applications of immunology and virology to cancer treatment. Your role will include general laboratory support to the team with a primary focus on patient samples from clinical trials, specifically the collection, processing and archiving of clinical material. Other duties will include maintenance and ordering of laboratory supplies and training of research students and staff. In addition, you will assist individual team members with laboratory techniques such as immune cell purification, immunological assays, viral infection and the culturing of primary cells and cell lines.

With a degree in an appropriate scientific discipline, you will have had substantial experience of working in a laboratory environment. You will have the ability to communicate effectively with members of a team and to prioritise tasks to facilitate the efficient running of the laboratory. You will have experience in many of the areas listed in the job description/requirements, but training will be provided for specific tasks within the role.

You will work under the supervision of Dr Adel Samson in the Translational Cancer Immunotherapy Group and support the activity of this group and their collaborators.

What does the role entail?

As Research Technician your main duties will include:

- Responsibility for the collection and processing of clinical samples across the Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust (LTHT) sites, predominantly at St James's University Hospital and more occasionally the Leeds General Infirmary;
- Assisting and performing immunological, molecular and biochemical assays as required;



- Maintaining supplies of general laboratory reagents and stores and help to ensure safe and efficient running of the laboratory;
- Assisting with the purchasing of specialist items for the research group;
- Maintaining accurate and up-to-date laboratory books and records;
- Liaising closely with research group members to plan and manage your workload whilst working with minimal supervision on a day-to-day basis;
- Learning new research techniques/skills as necessary during the project;
- Being aware of Good Clinical Practice and undertake appropriate training to enable effective working to these guidelines;
- Communicating research results at group and unit meetings when required and contributing to the writing of reports, papers and grant applications of the team;
- Supervision, instruction and provision of demonstrations for more junior technical staff and/or students in laboratory techniques, operation of particular equipment/apparatus and basic laboratory management as directed;
- Being aware of the risks in the work environment and work in accordance with the GM and COSHH assessments, contributing to GM and COSHH assessments when appropriate;
- Treating data with confidentiality and in accordance with current policies;
- Working collaboratively with other staff/students within and external to your own research team as appropriate;
- Support and adherence to the Institute's commitment to Equality and Diversity.

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 Research Technician you will have:

- A degree in an appropriate scientific discipline;
- Experience of working in a sample processing and/or research laboratory with duties including stock control, equipment maintenance;
- Practical experience of techniques such as the isolation of primary cells; (lymphocytes, granulocytes, platelets) and non-cellular components (serum, plasma), specifically from clinical blood samples;



- Experience of working with confidential patient information;
- Practical experience in immunological and basic biology assays, such as flow cytometry, DNA/RNA extraction from human blood/tissue, gel electrophoresis, Western blots;
- Demonstrable ability to troubleshoot and overcome experimental difficulties;
- A willingness to work flexibly when necessary to fulfil the needs of the research project;
- Demonstrable ability to perform specialised duties and record complex data with a high level of accuracy;
- Computer literacy and a working knowledge of a range of software, including office applications, Achiever Medical;
- Demonstrable ability in working on a daily basis with minimal supervision, with a capacity to deal with varied tasks and work under pressure.

You may also have:

- Practical experience of cell culture techniques;
- Experience of working with viruses that infect mammalian cells;
- Previous experience of supervising others.

You will report to Dr Adel Samson, CRUK Clinician Scientist and Honorary Medical Oncologist.

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 Adel Samson, CRUK Clinician Scientist and Honorary Medical Oncologist

Tel: (+44)113 3438449; Email: a.samson@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

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

Find out more about [Leeds Institute of Medical Research](#). The institute and its facilities are predominantly based on the [St James's University Hospitals Campus](#) although some team are also located on the [University of Leeds' main campus](#).

Find out more about [Dr Adel Samson's research](#).

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.

Security checks

Appointment to this post will be subject to appropriate security checks being carried out with your permission by a third party company.

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.

