



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Technician in Reproductive Pathology
Faculty of Medicine and Health**



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511– £32,817 p.a.)

Reference: MHLMR1012

Closing date: 8 March 2020

Interviews are scheduled to take place on 20 March 2020

Fixed term available immediately – ending 31 December 2021

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

Research Technician in Reproductive Pathology

School of Medicine, Leeds Institute of Medical Research

Can you provide technical support to an exciting research project in reproductive biology and pathology? Do you have extensive experience in protein analysis? Are you looking to broaden your horizons and contribute to projects with a commercial edge?

This is an exciting opportunity in the Women's Health Research Group for you to support our programme of research identifying markers of good sperm quality and improving natural conception rates for one of our commercial partners (Ostara Biomedical). Additionally, you will contribute to the team's work into the pathophysiology of reproductive disorders, which focuses on the development of novel strategies for their prevention, early detection and management.

You will have substantial laboratory experience with a BSc degree in a relevant biomedical field (or an equivalent qualification) and a keen interest in biomedical research. Experience of working with animal models and human and / or animal tissue of reproductive origin is essential as well as extensive experience in protein analysis including multiplex immunoassay, immunohistochemistry and ELISA assay development. You will be encouraged to develop your initiative and independence and will be given opportunities for career development.

This post is based within the School of Medicine in the Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's University campus, and located in the Wellcome Trust Brenner Building.

What does the role entail?

As Research Technician your main duties will include:

- Providing technical support to Ostara-funded project work primarily carrying out reproductive physiology experiments (largely involving basic tissue processing) using murine and livestock animal models and carrying out bioimage analysis using QuPath software;
- Oversight of animal welfare and general monitoring of environmental conditions;



- Attending the Assisted Conception Unit in Seacroft Hospital to support patient recruitment and sample collection and working across departments in Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust (e.g. Histopathology), as needed;
- Liaison with project leaders and Ostara staff to interpret and plan experiments, whilst working with minimal supervision and attendance at relevant meetings;
- Participating in activities supporting the projects including visits to farms and facilities at other institutions as needed;
- Providing day-to-day technical support to other projects run in the Women's Health Research Group and working flexibly according to deadlines and sample collection targets;
- Learning new research techniques/skills as required to support the aims of the project;
- Maintaining accurate and up-to-date laboratory books and records;
- Communicating research results at group/section meetings and in front of commercial sponsors as well as at internal/external seminars and meetings;
- Maintaining a safe working environment, including ensuring compliance with legislation (Human Tissue Act, patient confidentiality and Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986) requirements in all aspects of own work and undertake risk assessments;
- Working collaboratively and teaching specific laboratory or analytical methods to other members of staff/students, and be involved in the day to day supervision of students in the laboratory if required.

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 BSc or higher degree in a relevant biomedical field (or equivalent qualification);
- The ability to provide specialist technical input into the development of research objectives and proposals in a biology/medicine-related field and develop new techniques as appropriate;



- Current experience of working with human and/or animal tissue of reproductive origin;
- Extensive experience in protein analysis including multiplex immunoassay, immunohistochemistry and ELISA assay development;
- A willingness to work with clinical samples and evidence of training to Good Clinical Laboratory Practice (GCLP) standard with a working understanding of compliance with the Human Tissue Act;
- An ability to work proactively and independently with initiative and a problem solving approach;
- An ability to work flexibly according to the requirements of various projects, including the possibility of travel and working out of hours;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills including experience of presenting work in a written and verbal format;
- Experience of maintaining successful working relationships with colleagues including scientists and/or clinicians;
- A sound working knowledge of health and safety requirements within the laboratory setting;
- Familiarity with computer packages for data analysis, record-keeping and data presentation and experience of using, and coding in freeware packages.

You may also have:

- Training and competencies for patient recruitment;
- Current experience of carrying out animal-related work in line with Home Office guidelines with a detailed awareness of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and a working understanding of animal welfare;
- Evidence of technician-level contribution to abstracted presentations and manuscripts.

You will report to Dr Nic Orsi, Clinical Lecturer in Histopathology.



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 Nic Orsi, Clinical Lecturer in Histopathology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8625 (University) or +44 (0)113 206 8727 (NHS)

Email: n.m.orsi@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Michele Cummings, Research Fellow

Email: medmic@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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 [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

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 in our [Accessibility](#) information 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 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](#) page.

