



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 p.a.)**

**Reference: MHLMR1020**

**Closing date: 18 August 2020**

**Interviews scheduled for 24 August 2020**

**Fixed-term for 6 months**

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

## Research Technician

### School of Medicine, Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's, Division of Pathology and Data Analytics

**Can you provide technical support to exciting research projects in ovarian and breast cancers? 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 that will involve supporting our programme of research involving digital image analysis and novel biomarker discovery of breast and ovarian cancers for one of our US-based commercial partners (TriStar). This project aims to develop machine learning-based approaches to diagnostics and prognostication and to identify new prognostic biomarkers for drug development.

With a BSc degree in a relevant biomedical field (or an equivalent qualification), you will have substantial laboratory work experience in histopathology, a keen interest in biomedical research and will be a well-organised individual. You will be encouraged to develop your initiative and independence. The post is located in the Wellcome Trust Brenner building at St. James's University Hospital.

## What does the role entail?

As a Research Technician, your main duties will include:

- To provide technical support to TriStar-funded project work, as well as attending meetings and participating in related non-lab-based activities as needed.
- To liaise closely with project leaders and TriStar staff to interpret and plan experiments, whilst working with minimal supervision on a day-to-day basis.
- To provide day-to-day technical support to other projects run in the Women's Health Research Group and to work flexibly according to deadlines and sample collection targets.
- To maintain accurate and up-to-date laboratory books and records.
- To learn new research techniques/skills as necessary during the project.



- Contributing to the safe and well organised functioning of the laboratory, including assisting in the day to day running of the laboratory.
- To make and contribute to decisions on day to day matters which affect own work.
- To communicate research results at group and section meetings when required as well as in front of commercial sponsors.
- To attend Departmental, Institute and external research seminars and meetings if required.
- To maintain a safe working environment, including ensuring compliance with legislation and the undertaking of risk assessments.
- To treat data with confidentiality and in accordance with current policies.
- To work collaboratively with other staff and students within and external to your own research team as appropriate.
- To teach 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.
- To ensure compliance with Human Tissue Act and Ethics and General Data Protection Regulations requirements in all aspects of own work.

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 Dr Nic Orsi, Clinical Lecturer in Histopathology.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Grade 5 Research Technician you will have:

- A BSc or higher degree in a relevant biomedical field (or equivalent qualification).
- Substantial technician level research experience in histopathology, including slide review, slide scanning, tissue sectioning and immunohistochemistry.
- Willingness to work with clinical samples.



- An understanding of basic histopathological cancer diagnostics.
- Demonstrable ability to be proactive and work independently, with a willingness to learn and develop new skills.
- Proven ability and willingness to work flexibly according to the requirements of various projects, including the possibility of travel and working out of hours.
- Demonstrable ability to search scientific literature in the field.
- Demonstrable understanding of the ethical issues surrounding the use of human subjects in medical research, including a working understanding of compliance with the Human Tissue Act, Ethics and General Data Protection Regulations.
- Demonstrable experience of maintaining successful working relationships with both scientists and clinicians.
- Willingness to follow instructions and accept direction when necessary.
- Experience of laboratory supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills including experience of presenting work in a written and verbal format.
- Effective organisational ability, including a proven experience to prioritise, work under pressure and deliver outputs to an agreed deadline.
- Working knowledge of Health and Safety requirements within the laboratory setting.
- Familiarity with computer packages for data analysis, record-keeping, data presentation and communication.

You may also have:

- Broader experience in molecular biology, immunoassays and cell culture.
- Experience of computer image analysis.
- Evidence of technician-level contribution to abstracted presentations and manuscripts.



## 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**

Email: [n.m.orsi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:n.m.orsi@leeds.ac.uk)

**Dr Michele Cummings, Research Fellow**

Email: [medmic@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:medmic@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 [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](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).



## Criminal record information

«**For posts falling under Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975**» «**Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975**

This post requires «an enhanced» «an enhanced and barred list» «a standard» criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.»

«**For posts falling under Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**» «**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.» «**OR**» «This post requires a basic criminal record check from Disclosure Scotland and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status and all applicants must declare if they have any ‘unspent’ criminal offences, including those pending.»

Any offer of appointment will be «**Delete if no check required: 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.

