



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Histopathology, Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's



Salary: Grade 7 (£34,304 – £40,927 p.a.)

Reference: MHLMR1090

Fixed-term for 3 years (the role is funded by external grant income)

We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements

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

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in histopathology, cancer biology and biomarker research? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

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 across a range of cancers for one of our US-based commercial partners (TriStar). This project aims to support a programme allied to pharma companies based on pan cancer tumour profiling, identifying new predictive/prognostic biomarkers for drug development and machine learning-based approaches to diagnostics and prognostication

The project has a number of strands, building on the team's existing expertise in biomarker profiling and the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in developing computer-assisted diagnostic algorithms. Much of the work will involve driving and managing a very large cancer case collection with associated metadata, establishing a in-house state-of-the-art sequencing facility, data handling, supervising other technical support staff, as well as performing additional wet laboratory work according to the dynamic requests of our funder (principally immunohistochemistry and molecular biology). Many cancer type-specific subprojects will be performed in partnership with other global collaborators identified by TriStar. The work is expected to feed in to an international collaborative network involving academia and industry and to result in high impact factor publications.

With a PhD 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 Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of the research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;
- Establishing an in-house sequencing facility (Genexus); 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 and clinicians, 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 Dr Nic Orsi, Industrial Clinician Scientist in Histopathology



What will you bring to the role?

As Research Fellow you will have:

- A first degree and PhD (or close to completion, meaning submitted initial version of thesis at point of application), or an equivalent qualification, in life sciences or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in cancer biology, clinical data handling and molecular biology, additional immunohistochemistry experience would be advantageous;
- 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:

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications with a focus on cancer;
- Previous experience with molecular biology, immunoassays and cell culture techniques;
- Experience of histopathology workflows and computer image analysis.

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, Industrial Clinician Scientist in Histopathology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8625

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

Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

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

Find out more about the [Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's](#)

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.



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.

