



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Senior Research Technician, Leeds Institute of Medical Research,  
Faculty of Medicine and Health



**Salary: Grade 6 (£28,762– £34,308 p.a. pro rata)**

**Reference: MHLMR1100**

**Part-time (50% FTE)**

**Fixed-term to 31 March 2024 (The role is funded by external grant income)**

**We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements**

## Senior Research Technician

### School of Medicine, Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's, Division of Gastroenterology and Surgical Sciences

**Can you provide technical support to research projects? Do you have extensive laboratory experience which includes skills in brain cancer?**

Glioma is a brain cancer of unmet need, with little progress made in the past 30 years, and despite current 'gold standard' therapy, overall survival remains dismal (12-15 months). Neurosurgery remove much of the tumour bulk but due to the infiltrative nature of glioma, cancer cells remain. These cells can resist adjuvant chemoradiotherapy treatment, causing tumours to inevitably regrow. We are interested in studying the fundamental cancer biology of this aggressive and highly dynamic process in a disease-relevant model in real time. This involves developing cutting edge *in vitro* and *in vivo* models that will enable us to identify new targets and optimise existing treatments.

### What does the role entail?

As a Senior Research Technician your main duties will include:

- Performing brain tumour xenografts and syngeneic models (intracranial implantation) and imaging (both IVIS and MRI);
- Undertaking treatment protocols (radiotherapy, drug administration, combination treatments) of xenograft models;
- Maintaining cell and organoid cultures;
- Undertaking gene expression analyses, immunohistochemistry and histology;
- Responsibility for planning and organising a programme of laboratory work to ensure that experimental goals are delivered according to an agreed timetable;
- Responsibility for problem-solving and making independent decisions relating to the short- to medium-term delivery of the research projects, with the support of the principal investigator and/or collaborators when required;
- Providing technical input into future experimental design and advising on application of specialist techniques and equipment to other staff and students;
- Liaising effectively and pro-actively maintaining contacts with colleagues across different laboratories and academic units within the institute and



externally to ensure that information is cascaded appropriately to other research workers;

- Contributing to the safe and well organised functioning of the laboratory;
- Responsibility for planning and management of resources, preparing project plans, ensuring good progress of work and keeping detailed records;
- Willingness to prepare, collate and present data to other members of the research group and attend research group meetings;
- Provide feedback to the principal investigators on service usage, stock utilisation and to discuss progress and future plans;
- Willingness to be trained in new laboratory techniques.

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 Ryan Mathew, Associate Professor.

## **What will you bring to the role?**

As a Senior Research Technician you will have:

- Diploma / Degree, or equivalent, in biomedical sciences and willingness to undergo security screening;
- Knowledge of basic molecular biology techniques with experience in immunohistochemistry and fluorescence microscopy;
- Familiarity with usage of computer programs (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint);
- A home office personal licence, experience with in vivo mouse models including various administration techniques, animal husbandry, Home Office Licence reporting;
- Evidence of an ability to work individually and in a research team, with effective interpersonal and communication skills;
- Evidence of Good time management skills and ability to adhere to deadlines;
- Willingness to work flexibly, when necessary, to fulfil the needs of the research project and to show initiative and judgement to resolve problems;
- Proven ability to design and undertake a programme of experimental work to address focussed scientific questions and to deliver objectives according to pre-specified goals;



- Effective practical skills at the laboratory bench and familiarity with safety regulations;
- Able to provide specialist technical input into the development of research objectives and proposals.

You may also have:

- Experience of pre-clinical treatment protocols (drugs and biologic agents);
- Previous experience of in vitro and in vivo irradiation;
- Experience with tissue culture;
- Experience with in vivo imaging (IVIS and MRI).

## 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:

**Ryan Mathew, Associate Professor**

Email: [r.k.mathew@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:r.k.mathew@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](mailto: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 (Exceptions) Order 1975**

This post requires basic 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.

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.

