



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Phage Display, Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 7 (£36,333– £43,155 p.a.)

Reference: FBSMB1257

Available on a fixed-term basis for three years (external funding)

This role will be based on the university campus. We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements.

Research Fellow in Phage Display School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in phage display and isolation of Affimer reagents? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive Universities?

Antimicrobial resistance represents a global challenge that requires a paradigm shift in healthcare to resolve. Antibiotics are becoming less effective due to increased resistance associated with their overuse and mis-prescription. There is a demand not only to develop new antimicrobial compounds but to improve diagnosis and prescribe only as required, and specific to the pathogen.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are among the most common types of infections and are a significant cause of mortality, especially among the elderly population. Many patients are in care home settings or have poor mobility and hence the ability to undertake and remote test, and report the results directly to the patient record would represent a significant advance for infection diagnosis and treatment. This position is part of a multidisciplinary team to develop lateral flow devices for multiplex detection of UTIs. It will involve developing phage display methods to isolate Affimer reagents against different microbes that cause UTIs, develop devices and clinically validate the devices.

For this role, you should have a PhD (or close to completion) in development of phage display methods and isolation of Affimer reagents. You should also have experience in production of recombinant proteins and Affimer reagents, development of phage display protocols, characterising Affimer reagents in a range of binding assays, general molecular biology skills and a good analytical ability.

The University of Leeds and the Faculty of Biological Sciences are committed to providing equal opportunities for all and offer a range of family friendly policies. The University is a charter member of Athena SWAN (the national body that promotes gender equality in higher education), and the Faculty of Biological Sciences was awarded a Silver award in 2020. We are proud to be an inclusive Faculty that values all staff, and are happy to consider job share applications and requests for flexible



working arrangements from our employees. Our Athena SWAN [webpage](#) provides more information.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Designing, planning and conducting a programme of investigation, in consultation with [Dr Darren Tomlinson](#);
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in diagnostic development with an aim to extend the Tomlinson research portfolio;
- Making a significant contribution to the dissemination of research results by publication in leading peer-reviewed journals, and by presentation at national and international meetings;
- Working independently and as part of a larger team of researchers, both internally and externally, to develop new research links and collaborations and engage in knowledge transfer activities where appropriate;
- Contributing to the supervision of junior researchers and PhD students and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and relating such evaluations to your own research;
- To contribute to, and to encourage, a safe working environment.

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 a Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD (or close to completion) in development of phage display methods and isolation of Affimer reagents;
- Experience in production of recombinant proteins and Affimer reagents, development of phage display protocols, characterising Affimer reagents in a range of binding assays, general molecular biology skills and a good analytical ability;
- The ability to design, execute and write up research independently;



- A developing track record of peer reviewed publications in international journals;
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, and the ability to communicate your research at national and international conferences;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Experience in developing diagnostics and the use of other binding reagents;
- Evidence of pursuing external funding to support research.

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.

Your application should include:

- A supporting statement providing evidence to support each requirement listed on the 'What will you bring to the role' section of the Candidate Brief (no more than two sides of A4, minimum font size 11);
- An academic curriculum vitae, including a list of your publications.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

[Dr Darren Tomlinson](#)

Tel: +44 (0)113 3437099

Email: d.c.tomlinson@leeds.ac.uk



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.

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#) and the [School of Molecular and Cellular Biology](#)

At the University of Leeds, we are committed to providing a culture of inclusion, respect and equity of opportunity that attracts, supports, and retains the best students and staff from all backgrounds. Whatever role we recruit for we are always striving to increase the diversity of our community, which each individual helps enrich and cultivate. We particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, people who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit 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.

