

Job description

Job title	laboratory scientist'
Directorate	NIS Research
Pay band	EO
Responsible to	Katie West
Base/location	Porton
Hours/ Sessions per week	37.5
Primary Specialty	Immunology/Microbiology/Working at containment level 3
Area of work	Vaccine and Therapeutics evaluation
Job type	Scientific laboratory based

We pride ourselves as being an employer of choice, where Everyone Matters promoting equality of opportunity to actively encourage applications from everyone, including groups currently underrepresented in our workforce.

UKHSA ethos is to be an inclusive organisation for all our staff and stakeholders. To create, nurture and sustain an inclusive culture, where differences drive innovative solutions to meet the needs of our workforce and wider communities. We do this through celebrating and protecting differences by removing barriers and promoting equity and equality of opportunity for all.

The Research department at Porton plays an important role in preparing for and coordinating responses to potential healthcare emergencies, including possible acts of deliberate release.

In addition, the department undertakes both basic and applied research into understanding infectious diseases and manufactures a number of healthcare products, including vaccines and therapeutics.

The Research department at Porton performs a range of research activities, including high containment level work. The department's work covers a broad range of projects involving the development and evaluation of interventions into a range of infectious diseases e.g. TB, meningitis, anthrax and plague.

Job description

The post holder will play a key role in an internationally recognised team contributing to global

TB vaccine and drug initiatives. The team are responsible for the delivery of the scientific and technical activities associated with the use of advanced in vivo models of M. tuberculosis infection for the evaluation of novel TB vaccine strategies and therapeutics.

The post holder will assist with the evaluation of novel vaccines and therapeutics in the following ways:

- Using immunological techniques such as ELISA, Flow cytometry and PCR.
- Using microbiological techniques such as plating of bacteria/tissue samples and counting CFUs.
- Using the above techniques in a containment level 3 environment.
- Assisting with the preparation for individual studies
- Assist with data analysis and presentation

In addition the post holder will:

- Assist with on-going pandemic by contributing to SARS-CoV-2 tasks as directed by line manager.

Additional Wording

Please note: This is a NOT a Biomedical scientist post.

Key Responsibilities

- Utilise a range of methods/assays/techniques in support of activities associated with the project aimed to ensure project targets are met
- Take responsibility for the control and stockpile of reagents for their own area of the project
- Assist the project team to identify, evaluate and adapt new technologies where appropriate and to ensure that the project operates to a high scientific standard using current methods
- Supply data to agreed time-scales to enable the preparation of project reports, presentations and publications
- To perform any other duties required by the Line manager commensurate with grade
- To ensure that the project team undertakes work in accordance with the Code of Safety Practice and to work within any Quality Systems that are applicable to the site
- To maintain health and safety competence to the national occupational standard 'Make sure your actions reduce risks to health and safety' (NOS HSS1)
- To fulfil the requirements of UKHSA Values and Behaviours commensurate with grade
- To comply with all UKHSA policies and procedures

Essential Criteria:

- Degree/equivalent qualification or suitable experience
- Experience of safe working practices
- Experience in relevant methods acquired through previous employment, placements or

taught course

- An understanding of and commitment to equality of opportunity and good working relationships.
- Willing to undertake security clearance and/or vaccinations as required
- Skills for communication on complex information and administrative matters, requiring developed interpersonal and oral/ written communication skills
- Problem solving skills and ability to respond to sudden unexpected demands, changes in workload and working in difficult environments. Calm and methodical approach.
- Ability to work on own initiative and organise own workload with minimal supervision working to tight and often changing timescales

Desirable criteria too:

- Some postgraduate experience in relevant methods: qPCR, ELISA, CL3 work, basic laboratory techniques
- Good knowledge and practical familiarity with essential techniques for project which are basic microbiology, basic molecular biology, CL3 work, RNA extraction, isolation of cells from blood samples.
- Experience of having worked within a regulated environment (e.g. ISO9001)

Vacancy Success Profile

Behaviours	
Seeing the Big Picture	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing and Improving	✓
Making Effective Decisions	✓
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicating and Influencing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working Together	✓
Developing Self and Others	
Managing a Quality Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivering at Pace	✓

Experience	
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As per advert:

- CV/ Application Form
- Statement of Suitability

Technical

Qualifications required:	<i>BSc in relevant subject or equivalent experience.</i>
Licence(s)	N/A
Memberships(s)	N/A
Other	N/A

Selection Approach

Sift/Shortlisting

Elements to be assessed	At sift stage you will be assessed on essential criteria and this will be in the form of a CV/ Application form and 500 (up to 1250 words) Statement of Suitability
Interview	
Elements to be assessed	

Panel Member Requirements

- Panel must not be single gender
- Panel chair must be a grade above the advert and a civil servant
- Highlight whether contractor or civil servant
- All panel members should complete training on equality and diversity and success profiles.