

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Technician
School/Department:	Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology
Reference:	20/108341
Closing Date:	Wednesday 7 October 2020
Salary:	£24,461 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 19 October 2020
Duration:	This is a fixed term contract until 30 April 2022

JOB PURPOSE:

To work within a colorectal cancer research group, focussed on managing in vivo colonies and experimental work. The successful candidate will assist in the design, implementation and delivery of in vivo experiments, and the subsequent processing and analysis of experimental tissues.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Perform colony maintenance tasks, including submission of genotyping, as required by the research groups.
2. Assist in the design, implementation and delivery of experiments using state of the art GEMM and transplant models.
3. Maintain accurate records of all work undertaken in line with DoH legal requirements, and assist in preparation of annual returns.
4. Assist in generation of primary immortalised and genetically modified cell/organoid models for own immediate use and use by other researchers.
5. Process, embed and section histological samples from experimental samples generated in vivo (FFPE and/or Frozen).
6. Optimise/develop histological staining protocols for in vivo samples, and image acquisition/analysis platforms.
7. Comply with health and safety procedures affecting self and others and ensure the work area is clean and safe at all times.
8. Oversee and instruct under-graduate and post-graduate research students and research staff in BSU and laboratory techniques as deemed necessary and appropriate.
9. Assist in any way deemed appropriate to the overall success of the research objectives of the group and the cancer research centre.

Planning and Organising:

1. Carry out, with minimal supervision, a range of tasks largely but not exclusively according to established procedures.
2. Plan own work schedule but make adjustments depending on changing demands.
3. Make arrangements for planned future work in association with academic supervisor or line manager as appropriate.
4. Ensure all supplies and equipment are available so that work can proceed as scheduled.
5. Optimise new techniques or use of new reagents and troubleshoot as required.
6. Maintain accurate records of animal numbers and genotyping data.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Take delegated responsibility for the maintenance of in vivo colonies.
2. Take delegated responsibility for the planning and execution of in vivo experiments, and maintenance of accurate records to complete annual returns.
3. Have responsibility for the processing, embedding and sectioning of in vivo samples.
4. Have responsibility for careful use of available resources including BSU and histological reagents

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Daily contact with supervisors, work colleagues and other members of staff.
2. Contact with BSU staff as necessary.

3. Liaison with research collaborators from other departments or institutions as necessary.
4. Attendance and involvement at seminars and research meetings in the CCRCB and CEM.
5. Some Liaison with external consultants and DoH Home Office Inspectors.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. A minimum qualification of ONC/OND and/or NVQ level 3 in biology, medical laboratory sciences or related subject (or equivalent).
2. Active UK Home Office/ NI Department of Health Personal Licence
3. 3 years recent relevant experience in in vivo work, with demonstrable competence in regulated procedures such as IP, IV and Oral Gavage
4. Experience and demonstrable competence in schedule 1 and necropsy dissection techniques
5. Working knowledge of ASPA
6. Excellent record keeping skills to facilitate internal auditing and external reporting
7. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
8. Be capable of using own initiative.
9. Ability to work in a team and as an individual.
10. Ability to plan own work schedule responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities.
11. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. BSc degree or higher in relevant subject.
2. Experience in working with GEMM models
3. Experience in Histology/tissue processing
4. Experience in Immunohistochemistry techniques and image analysis
5. Experience in cell/organoid culture in vitro
6. Knowledge of relevant Health and Safety issues and of COSHH regulations.
7. Demonstrate excellent communication skills and enthusiasm to develop and maintain productive relationships with lab members and collaborators