Job Description

Job title	Research Associate
Department/School	Pharmacy and Pharmacology
Job family	Education and Research
Grade	7, spine point 30
Reporting to	Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Investigator (CI)
Responsible for	Day to day supervision of other staff e.g. technical staff or supervision of doctoral or undergraduate students may be required.
Location	University of Bath premises

Background and context

Synovial immune cells in inflammatory arthritis

This post offers an exciting opportunity for an early career immunologist to get involved in a project characterizing the functional properties of synovial fluid immune cells from patients with arthritis.

The Department of Pharmacy & Pharmacology is an internationally renowned department with over 90% of our research rated as world leading or internationally excellent in the 2014 REF exercise and has been recently awarded a Silver Athena SWAN award. This is an exciting multi-group project involving Professor Neil McHugh, Professor Steve Ward and Dr Amanda Mackenzie in collaboration with colleagues at UCB Celltech, Slough. The successful candidate will isolate immune cells by multi-coloured FACS (up to 12 colours) and establish cell cultures to evaluate cytokine release profiles by ELISA and Mesoscale. A primary objective of the project is to understand the impact of hypoxic conditions on the expression of cytokines and biomarkers in immune cells. Excellent facilities are available in the University Bioimaging Suite that will be available for this project including FACS Aria III and a BBSRC funded state of the art hypoxic facility (www.bath.ac.uk/mas). Applicants should have a PhD in immunology or a related research area or have submitted their thesis by the start date. Demonstrated technical experience of multi-colour flow cytometry is essential to the position. Experience in the area of hypoxia would be an advantage. In addition, the applicant will have excellent presentation skills (written and oral) and the ability to manage their own workload. The work will be carried out within the highly rated Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, University of Bath.

Job purpose
To provide subject-specific research expertise and undertake specific research work to a Principal Investigator (PI)/Co-Investigator (CI) and their research team for a specified grant / project.

Main duties and responsibilities	
	Responsible to the PI/CI for (as appropriate to discipline):
1	Conduct individual and/or collaborative research projects. Take a lead in the experimental design and execution of the project. Generate and analyse data related to the project using qualitative and quantitative techniques.
2	Work in collaboration with clinicans to collect samples where hours will be worked flexibily in accordance to the project.
3	Project management: e.g. timetabling and meeting project milestones; participating in regular discussions with collaborative partners. Liaise with key stakeholders/industrial partners.
4	Disseminating results of project as appropriate to the discipline e.g. by presentations at conferences.
5	Participate regularly in group meetings and prepare and deliver presentations to project team, internal and external stakeholders or funders.
6	Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism to inform research activity.
7	The candidate will require a valid UK driving license to travel between sites in Bath.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
A PhD degree in immunology, or an equivalent professional qualification (and significant relevant experience where applicable).	√	
Experience/Knowledge		
Post doctoral experience		√
Demonstrated experience of multi-coloured flow cytometry	√	
Demonstrated significant depth and breadth of specialist knowledge of subject matter to contribute to research programmes and to the development of departmental research activities.	√	
Demonstrated awareness of latest developments in the field of research and in research design	√	
Demonstrated potential to publish in high quality, peer reviewed journals	√	
Skills		
Ability to prepare research proposals, to conduct individual research work and to disseminate results	√	
Use of flow cytometry including mutli-coloured labelling and cell sorting	√	
Ability to organise and prioritise own workload	√	
Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes	√	
Excellent oral, interpersonal and written communication skills	√	
Proficiency in experimental techniques (as appropriate to discipline)	√	
Proficiency in IT skills (as appropriate to discipline)	√	
Attributes		
Innovation and developing creative solutions	√	

Enthusiasm and self-motivation.	√	
Organisation – able to plan and deliver work to meet required deadlines	√	
Tenacity – working to achieve own and team objectives and to overcome obstacles	√	
Ability to be an effective team worker	√	