



BSMS

1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Assistant

School/department: Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 36.5 hours

Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

Contract: fixed term for 12 months part time, 6 months full time

Reference: 9559

Salary: starting at £31,411 to £35,333 per annum, pro rata if part time

Placed on: 02 September 2022

Closing date: 04 October 2022. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected interview date: TBC

Expected start date: TBC

We are hiring a research assistant to join our internationally recognised Haemato-oncology research team. We are looking for collaborative, pro-active team player with established laboratory experience and the ability to quickly grasp new techniques. The successful applicant will contribute to an exciting research agenda, with a focus on understanding the biology blood cancers. The successful applicant will be expected to and generate high quality data suitable for inclusion in peer-reviewed publications. Many of the experimental approaches required are already established in our lab, but there may be opportunities to develop new assays and/or troubleshoot existing ones. The successful applicant will be fully integrated into our team and will be expected to supervise/support students as required and contribute to discussions about data at team meetings.

The position can be part-time or full time and we can be flexible in agreeing a start date and working pattern.

This post will be based in the Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine at BSMS. Cancer represents a major strategic priority for BSMS reflecting our interest in basic, translational, and clinical oncology. Any experience in the below would be desirable but not essential and should be highlighted in the application:

- flow cytometry,
- tissue culture,
- Western blotting
- ELISA assays
- standard molecular biology techniques, including RT-PCR.

The Haemato-oncology group is a successful collaborative partnership between clinicians and scientists. The laboratory-based 'Pepper Team' (<https://www.pepper.science>) and computational systems biology 'Mitchell Team' (<https://mitchell.science>) currently represent the two largest groupings. Our main areas of expertise are in modelling the tumour

microenvironment, understanding the role of NF- κ B in disease progression and the development of drug resistance and the pre-clinical evaluation of novel targeted agents. The team currently works on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia, Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma and Malignant Myeloma, and the successful applicant would work with both cell lines and patient samples from these haematological cancers. We are seeking a candidate who can rapidly learn to reliably perform a flow cytometry-based approach we have established, and synergise with the existing team to interpret and present the results. The successful candidate will have the exciting opportunity to contribute to the impact of the dynamic haemato-oncology research team at BSMS. We are a highly interdisciplinary group and there is potential to gain experience with additional approaches and techniques depending on the applicants experience and desire to learn.

Please contact S.A.Mitchell@bsms.ac.uk for informal enquiries.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

www.brighton.ac.uk/jobs www.bsms.ac.uk

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <https://www.bsms.ac.uk/>

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

Job Description for the post of: Research Assistant

Department	Clinical and Experimental Medicine
Section / Unit /	Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Location	Research Building
Grade	6
Responsible to	Simon Mitchell
Responsible for	none

Purpose of the post - The provision of technical assistance and advice to research project staff and students to facilitate the investigation and output of a project group or groups

Key Responsibilities:

- 1 Provide technical assistance and advice to staff and students on the preparation of resources, materials, setting-up of specialist equipment, instruments and use of

specialised techniques for recognised researchers and research groups within the institution.

- 2 Carry out experiments as needed for timely advancement of research projects. Prepare, collate and interpret results. Liaise with supervisor or Principal Investigator on regular basis to discuss results and project progression/direction.
- 3 Ensure the implementation of a safe working environment using good working practices, in line with relevant local and legal requirements. Undertaking standard risk, or other safety, assessments, and producing standard operating procedures when necessary, under the supervision of the Principal Investigator or supervisor.
- 4 Decide when to order non-routine apparatus and materials, to maintain adequate stock levels, within agreed local budgets. Carry out budgeting exercises and cost control measures under the supervision of, and within the limits, the Principal Investigator or supervisor.
- 5 Planning and organisation of resources for the running of research / general laboratories. Responsible for ensuring that the tidiness and the provision of the laboratory/laboratories is maintained at all times.
- 6 Use initiative and standard procedures to develop, design, modify, construct and set up of apparatus and/or research experiments to meet the needs of the lab.
- 7 Ensure that all project equipment is functional at all times. Carrying out regular, first line maintenance tasks, investigating and identifying faults and then carrying out minor repairs. Ensuring all records are maintained.
- 8 Prepare and maintain adequate laboratory records of methods, sample details and results in a timely fashion within specific research project(s).
- 9 Attend laboratory meetings and communicate with other departmental or University staff on laboratory issues.
- 10 Instruct, train and guide technical staff and students in techniques and operation of particular equipment / apparatus as directed by a supervisor or member of academic staff.
- 11 Participate in specialist networks and undertake development activities where necessary in order to keep knowledge and skills up to date and relevant for subject specialism. Apply working knowledge of theory and practice, sharing this knowledge with others as appropriate
- 12 Supervision of other technical staff may be required within own area of responsibility as directed by a supervisor or member of academic staff.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or the level of responsibility entailed.

Date:

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Person Specification for the post of: Research Assistant

SKILLS / ABILITIES

	Essential	Desirable
Proven ability to work independently and use initiative where appropriate.	X	
Demonstrable IT skills – Word, Excel, email and internet packages.	X	
Competent in using specialist lab equipment	X	
Numerate & literate with good oral and written English communication skills	X	
Good organisational skills with an ability to prioritise to meet set deadlines.	X	
The ability to produce a high level of quality and quantity of work with the use of good sensory and physical co-ordination within the requirements of the job.	X	

KNOWLEDGE

	Essential	Desirable
The Research assistant is required to have sufficient knowledge and/or expertise to work on day to day issues in own area without direct or continuous reference to others.	X	
Working knowledge of Health and Safety as it pertains to the laboratory environment	X	
A well founded understanding of molecular biology.	X	

EXPERIENCE

	Essential	Desirable
Possession of a breadth and/or depth of experience showing full working knowledge of molecular/cellular biology and the ability to discharge the role effectively and efficiently.	X	
Experience of performing standard molecular biology techniques to a high standard.	X	

QUALIFICATIONS

	Essential	Desirable
Normally expected to have Degree level qualification or equivalent in an appropriate field	X	
Level 6 NVQ or equivalent qualifications or experience at a similar level in a relevant subject	X	
Role specific or equivalent experience qualification		X

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PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND CIRCUMSTANCES

	Essential	Desirable
Dependable, reliable and self-motivated	X	
Willing to coach and instruct other team members	X	
Willingness to supervise, work as part of, and contribute to, a team.	X	
Flexibility to work outside normal hours if required		X
Flexible and able to adapt to change	X	
Proficiency to handle confidential matters appropriately and discreetly, and with due regard to the General Data Protection Regulations.	X	
Good time-keeping and punctuality	X	
Demonstrates continuous specialist development by acquiring relevant skills and competences for the post.	X	