



Foundation for Liver Research

Principal Investigator/Group Leader in Gut Microbiome & Chronic Liver Disease Institute of Hepatology, London

Salary: A competitive salary is offered depending on experience

Duration: 3-5 years in the first instance

Job Description

Increasing evidence points to a central role for gut microbial dysbiosis and increased bacterial translocation in the development and progression of chronic liver injury and disease. We are seeking an established senior scientist/microbiologist to lead an active research programme aimed at investigating the Gut-Liver axis in Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Liver disease.

Applicants are requested to submit research proposals aimed to delineate the pathways associated with gut or intestinal dysfunction in chronic liver disease and actively pursue specific and novel pre-clinical interventional strategies. We would be particularly interested in studies that include (1) the use of bacteriophages to modulate the gut microbiome (2) mechanisms to repair the 'leaky' gut or (3) microbial metabolic interactions during liver disease.

This position comes with a significant support package which includes a fully functional and equipped laboratory together with the funding for 2 support staff (1 post-doctoral fellow and 1 technician) and seed-consumable funding for an initial 3 years.

The appointee will be based at the Institute of Hepatology, London, a purpose-designed three storey new building which offers an exciting and innovative multi-disciplinary research environment with high-level specialist equipment and facilities. This role would suit a forward-thinking leader capable of linking with existing lines of research at the Institute led by immunologists, clinicians and basic scientists. Complimentary research streams at the Institute include understanding the inflammatory mediators associated with liver injury, identification of the functional properties of the microbiome in chronic liver disease and the development of ex-vivo models of the gut-liver axis. All individual projects within the Institute's research portfolio have clinical translational objectives and interaction and cross-collaboration between the groups is strongly encouraged, with sharing of expertise, facilities and equipment.

The Institute of Hepatology is an independent research organisation directly managed and core funded by the Foundation for Liver Research. The Institute is affiliated to King's College London and King's College Hospital and the successful candidate will have an honorary contract with KCL and the opportunity in due course to apply for an Adjunct position.

A. Main Activities & Responsibilities

- To establish and lead an active basic science research team, taking overarching responsibility for the direction and delivery of the research.
- To work closely with teams at the Institute engaged in similar research interests to deliver translational strategies in patients with liver disease.
- To secure significant grant funding to further support the group's research and fund expansion of the team
- To lead in writing papers for publication in peer reviewed and leading academic journals including expert commentary in a variety of media
- To disseminate research findings and consolidate the Institute's international reputation through participation in international conference and exhibitions.
- Other duties commensurate with the nature and seniority of the role.

B. Person Specification

Essential

- PhD in a relevant subject (e.g. microbiology, mucosal immunology, gut-liver axis)
- Extensive knowledge and experience of performing research studies in the gut microbiome
- Established record of research, including effective management of relevant projects
- Evidence of securing external funding
- An excellent publication record in peer reviewed journals
- Demonstrate the ability to lead and participate in interdisciplinary research
- Evidence of strong collaborative links with other investigators and Institutions

Desirable

- Experience in working with bacterial pathogens
- Experience with studies in the Liver disease area

For full details of the post and of the Institute of Hepatology, London:

<http://www.liver-research.org.uk/liver-foundation/jobopportunities/rs6jd.html>

Closing date for applications: The Foundation is seeking to recruit an exceptional candidate and the post will remain open until that individual has been recruited.

To apply: please submit a detailed curriculum vitae that includes a description of research experience to date and a 2-page outline of future research plans. **Send to:** Natalie Day, Head of Administration (E: n.day@researchinliver.org.uk Tel: 020 7255 9832). For informal discussions regarding the post please contact Dr Shilpa Chokshi, Chief Scientific Officer (E: s.chokshi@researchinliver.org.uk).