



Research Assistant

Location: Institute of Hepatology, Foundation for Liver Research
111 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9NT

Job ref: RS41 and 41a

Salary: £32,470 - £33,769 per annum (inclusive of London Allowance)

Duration: 1 year initially with possibility of extension

Closing date: 5pm Thursday 3rd September 2020

Website: www.liver-research.org.uk

Summary of roles:

We are seeking two enthusiastic, flexible and committed Research Assistants to join the Liver Immunology Group. You will assist existing senior group members in laboratory-based studies investigating the immunopathogenesis of chronic liver disease, and in particular the development of novel in-vitro models recapitulating disease development, and identification of novel therapeutic targets for chronic liver disease including alcohol-related liver injury, cirrhosis and viral hepatitis.

Experience required:

Minimum of MSc degree in Immunology or a related biological discipline is required. As a candidate, you should have experience of aseptic techniques, cell cultures, handling infectious human samples and immunological techniques such as flow cytometry. Experience working at containment level 3 is desirable. You must show initiative, willingness to quickly acquire new skills/responsibilities and be a team player. Excellent attention to detail, critical thinking, and the ability to work independently are essential to succeed in this position, as are good communication and organizational skills. Although this will not be a regular occurrence, you may be required to work with potentially infectious human samples, and you should be flexible and willing to work evenings and weekends, depending on the project needs. The post will be funded for 1 year initially with a possibility of extension.

Job specification:

The main laboratory techniques involved are: isolation of peripheral blood mononuclear cells, immune cell cultures, flow cytometry and ELISA-based assays, RNA/DNA extraction, PCR-based techniques.

Tasks will include:

- To organise and receive the shipment of human biological samples and maintain sample inventories
- To process, label and cryopreserve human biological samples, including peripheral blood mononuclear cells and liver specimens
- To independently perform cell cultures under aseptic conditions, multicolour flow cytometry (up to 18 colours), ELISA-based assays and basic molecular biology techniques according to standard operating protocols
- Depending on the specific project, to potentially handle infected clinical specimen, propagate Hepatitis B virus and infect cells lines at containment level 3
- To keep detailed, accurate and comprehensible records of experimental plans and work, and to perform data analysis and statistical assessments
- To communicate developments and results to managers/supervisors and colleagues on a regular basis, and to contribute to internal or external scientific meetings as required
- To participate in managing laboratory reagents, equipment, consumables and stocks, including placing orders
- To contribute to the overall activities of the Liver Immunology group, including ad-hoc experiments, analysis and documentation as requested by the Head of the Liver Immunology Group
- To undertake specific safety responsibilities relevant for the Liver Immunology group and the Institute as a whole, including the preparation and maintenance of risk assessments and operating procedures

Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive and you may be asked to undertake additional tasks such as ad-hoc assistance with other experiments within the group, preparation of research documentation, health and safety work, laboratory and equipment maintenance, placing orders etc

Informal enquiries should be made to:

- Dr Antonio Riva, Senior Staff Scientist and Sub-team Leader, Liver Immunology group, Foundation for Liver Research, a.riva@researchinliver.org.uk
- Dr Sandra Phillips, Senior Staff Scientist and Sub-team Leader, Liver Immunology group, Foundation for Liver Research, s.phillips@researchinliver.org.uk

To apply for this post please send a 1-page covering letter explaining your background and suitability for our team, together with a detailed CV describing your research experience to date and including names and contact details of two referees, one of whom is the current/most recent employer, to:

Natalie Day, CEO and Head of Administration
Institute of Hepatology, London
111 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9NT

n.day@researchinliver.org.uk

Quote Job Ref: RS41 (Dr Antonio Riva)

Quote Job Ref: RS41a (Dr Sandra Phillips)

Closing date for applications: 5pm Thursday 3rd September 2020. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

In the event that you are invited for interview we will contact you by email confirming the arrangements.

Please note that due to current UK immigration restrictions the Foundation can only accept applications from EU nationals and individuals with existing permission to work in the UK.