

**Job Description**

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| Job Title: | PDRA in Wound Healing |
| Faculty/Professional Directorate: | FHS |
| Subject Group/Team: | HYMS/CfB |
| Reporting to: | Project lead |
| Duration: | 36 months Fixed Term |
| Job Family: | Academic |
| Pay Band: | 7 |
| Benchmark Profile: | Research Band 7 |
| DBS Disclosure requirement: | N/A |
| Vacancy Reference: |  |

**Details Specific to the Post**

**Background and Context**

The University of Hull is world-leading in the area of wound healing research with projects centred around understanding the cellular and molecular aspects of chronic wound pathology. Specific areas of interest include exploring host-microbe interactions, elucidating the role of ageing and diabetes in skin health and disease, and working with industry to develop innovative new treatment modalities. The Hull York Medical School provides a research environment with an international reputation for wound research. We have recently received capital investment funding to grow our research capacity and capabilities, engaging with key stakeholders, both locally and nationally. This position offers an exciting opportunity to undertake cutting-edge research in state-of-the-art facilities, with high potential to revolutionise future wound treatment pathways.

The PDRA will join the group of Dr Holly Wilkinson in the Centre for Biomedicine, Hull York Medical School where they will undertake a 3-year externally funded research project with Diabetes UK, exploring the role of host-microbial pathways in diabetic foot ulcer pathology. The PDRA will utilise cutting-edge sequencing technologies to identify diabetic foot ulcer pathogens and elucidate their role on host healing and senescence. They will then undertake mechanistic studies to modulate putative microbial pathways driving wound pathology. These studies will demonstrate the exciting potential of microbiome modulation to reverse diabetic wound pathology.

This post will provide an opportunity to undertake experimental studies across the areas of wound microbiology, bacterial sequencing, and host response. The project will also utilise a range of wound models (*in vitro*, *ex vivo* and *in vivo*) and will involve the use of donated patient tissue samples.

The successful applicant will have extensive experience in a relevant area of research with an established, or developing, research profile, including peer-reviewed publications. The candidate should have a PhD in Cell Biology, Immunology or a related discipline. Experience in supervision and mentoring of graduate students, and direct skin or wound experience, would be advantageous.

The wound group are proud to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment, promoting diversity and equality of opportunity in all aspects of our activities. The post-holder will be expected to contribute to this ethos of working positively with colleagues and partners. The post offers excellent career development opportunities including developing a range of research skills and presenting at external events.

### Specific Duties and Responsibilities of the post

The PDRA will undertake laboratory research, utilising a range of established wound models and cutting-edge techniques. They will interface with clinical groups within the Medical School and colleagues across the University, leading their own research project and supporting others. The position requires excellent scientific communication, organisation, presentation and writing skills.

In your covering letter please refer directly to the criteria given in the person specification below. Applications are assessed by the selection panel according to these criteria.

**GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION**

The job duties and responsibilities listed below are intended to describe the general nature of the role. The duties and responsibilities and the balance between the elements in the role may change or vary over time depending on the specific needs at a specific point in time or due to changing needs in the department. Candidates should note that there may not be an immediate requirement to carry out all the activities listed below.

### Overall Purpose of the Role

The researcher at this level will be:

* An experienced and professional researcher and will be a subject specialist, drawing upon knowledge gained from postgraduate research and/or working within a Research Band 6 role.
* Associated with a particular project (or projects) and will contribute ideas, and/or enhancement of techniques or methodologies and be expected to take significant initiatives in their work and consult with the Principal Investigator over the details of the project. They will work under supervision and receive academic, pastoral support and guidance which may include specific training, career opportunities and mentoring.

They may contribute to the Department’s teaching, through supervision of projects, overseeing practical classes, or taking small group tutorial classes.

The main focus of the work will involve conducting individual and collaborative research projects under the general guidance of a senior academic or Principal Investigator using new research techniques and methods, analysing and interpreting data and writing up research for publication.

**Main Work Activities**

1. Conduct individual and collaborative research projects to include:

* Using expertise to carry out projects they are working on.
* Contribute to the preparing proposals and applications for external bodies, e.g. for funding and contractual purposes with appropriate support or contribute to the writing of collective bids.
* Use new research techniques and methods.
* Analyse and interpret research data.
* Write up research work of the project and its dissemination through seminar and conferences presentations and publications.

1. Responsible for the management of projects to include:

* Plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others.
* Manage administrative activities with guidance if required.
* Plan and monitor the work of the project or projects if applicable.

1. Assist with teaching and learning support in own area of study to include:

* Assist in the development of student research skills.
* Assess student knowledge and supervision of projects.
* Supervise and guide final year students.

1. Develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally to include:

* Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration and to progress their research.
* Develop links and join external networks to share information and identify future potential sources of funding.
* Work with colleagues on joint projects as required.
* Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

1. Demonstrate evidence of own personal and professional development to include:

* Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
* Appraisal, induction and performance reviews.
* Participate in training and development activity.
* Maintain links with professional institutions and other related bodies.
* Collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared research interest.

### Additionally the post holder will be required to:

* Fulfil the employees’ duties described in the University’s health and safety policies and co-operate with the health and safety arrangements in place within the department. May be required to undertake specific health and safety roles on request e.g. Display screen equipment assessor, departmental safety officer, fire warden etc.
* Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices this includes undertaking mandatory equality and diversity training.
* Comply with University regulations, policies and procedures.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION – Research Band 7**

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| **Specification** | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **Examples Measured by** |
| **Education and Training**  Formal qualifications and relevant training | * A PhD in cell biology, biomedical science or a related discipline. | * Direct experience in skin biology or wound research. | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Work Experience**  Ability to undertake duties of the post | **Evidence of:**   * An emerging track record in an appropriate research field, including scientific publications, presentations at scientific conferences and contributing to grant applications. | * Peer-reviewed publication of relevant research. * Mentoring of postgraduate students. * Contribution to grant applications. | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Skills and Knowledge**  Includes abilities and intellect | **Evidence of:**   * Participation in collaborative research. * Effective management of resources. * Ability to lead research projects. | * Engagement of external partners. * Contribution to the supervision of undergraduate project, masters or PhD students. * Immunology, cell biology and/or microbiology expertise. * Experience working with human tissue or animal models. * Direct experience in analysing sequencing data. | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Personal Qualities**  Includes any specific physical requirements of the post – (subject to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010) | * An expectation to positively contribute to University activities and initiatives which may include open days, graduation ceremonies, etc., and have a willingness to undertake administrative activities * Show evidence of collaborative working, particularly on interdisciplinary activities * Evidence of working in an open and transparent way, providing information and communicating effectively with colleagues | * Evidence of Continuous Professional Development. * Ability to direct your own research and work independently. | Application  Interview  Other |