

**Job Description**

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| Job Title: | Research Technician |
| Faculty/Professional Directorate: | FHS |
| Subject Group/Team: | HYMS/CfB |
| Reporting to: | Holly Wilkinson |
| Duration: | 3 years |
| Job Family:  | Specialist (Lab)  |
| Pay Band: | 5 |
| Benchmark Profile: | Specialist (Lab) Band 5 |
| DBS Disclosure requirement: | No |
| 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.

We are seeking a talented research technician to join a vibrant and active wound healing research group within the Centre for Biomedicine, Hull York Medical School. You will provide dedicated support for a 3-year externally funded project with the Diabetes UK exploring the role of host-microbial pathways in diabetic foot ulcer 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 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 post-holder will be responsible for delivering defined experimental aspects of the research study. This will include use of aseptic technique for microbiology and tissue culture, bio-banking of patient samples, maintaining key equipment and routine laboratory management. Ideally the post-holder will have previous relevant laboratory experience and an interest in skin microbiology, immunology and wound healing. Day-to-day guidance and support will be provided by the research team, including a dedicated Post-Doctoral Research Associate. The post holder will be highly organised and motivated and will be expected to comply with all guidelines and regulations pertaining to laboratory research including working with human tissue. Full training and support will be provided for the required techniques. The specific role will include:

* Direct study support to the PDRA on the project.
* Specialised maintenance of relevant laboratory equipment.
* Close working with the study team to deliver required objectives.
* Ensuring compliance with health and safety policy and guidelines, with specific considerations for working with class II micro-organisms and human tissue.
* Assisting with *in vivo* experiments and updating associated documentation.
* Preparing standard operating procedures as applicable.
* Providing specialist support to the wider wound research team, particularly students.
* Generating and analysing experimental data.
* Maintenance of laboratory stocks and co-ordinating procurement activities.
* Active participation in laboratory meetings, contributing to the planning of research studies and solving technical hurdles.
* Participation in laboratory rotas.

**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 role holder:

* Will provide Laboratory support to staff, students and more senior colleagues.
* Will have practical working knowledge of the system/process/operating environment gained through formal instruction and/or experience.
* May have specific responsibility for a clearly defined section or sub-section of work and will use initiative within the boundaries of the role in line with University policies and procedures.
* Will include the discretion to deal with non routine queries and/or issues but more complex situations will be referred to senior colleagues.
* Will plan and prioritise own work and may be required to delegate work to others within agreed objectives.

**Main Work Activities**

### Communication

* Explains laboratory procedures, technical processes, equipment operation to students and staff
* Gives advice and guidance to staff and students on various laboratory related topics
* Presents information to staff and colleagues through practical demonstration
* Writes technical instructions, standard operating procedures and user guides.

**Teamwork**

* Provides day-to-day support to other members of staff and members of staff new to the work area.

**Liaising and Networking**

* Works in collaboration with staff and colleagues to maintain and implement existing services and new initiatives/procedures/processes.
* Liaises with staff and colleagues to ensure that projects are developed and completed satisfactorily.
* Works in collaboration with external organisations.

### Service Delivery

* Carry out research experiments.
* Maintain day-to-day running of a research laboratory.
* Support for undergraduate project student supervision in laboratory.

### Planning and Organisation

* Plans and prioritises own work in order to meet deadlines.
* Checks and monitors equipment is in good working order and produce schedules to manage this.

### Analysis/Data Inputting

* Fault diagnosis, test and maintain equipment.
* Keep up to date with latest developments/equipment.
* Data analysis.

 **Teaching and Learning Support**

* May be required to instruct students and staff.

### 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
* 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

**COMPETENCY SPECIFICATION**

To fulfil your role, you will need certain knowledge, skills and competencies. The following competency specification provides a framework within which your performance will be assessed. The interview assessment may include, for example, testing on IT skills.

**The Competencies set out below are essential and are core requirements** needed to perform the role and any candidate who fails the requirement will not be taken forward for further assessment or to interview.

***Guidance for managers:*** *You may wish to amend or change the knowledge and experience required for a specific role. For example you may wish the post holder to have experience of customer service, if so please insert below.* ***(Please delete this guidance when section is completed)***

**Competency Identified by**

**Knowledge and Experience**

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| Evidence of substantial experience in this area of work covering a broad range of Laboratory activities including aseptic technique. | **Application/Interview** |
| Has relevant BSc or Masters qualification in related field or equivalent qualification and/or experience. | **Application/Interview** |
| Has an active approach in continuing professional development/undertaking training as appropriate for personal and professional development. | **Application/Interview** |

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| **Communication (Oral and Written)**Can demonstrate the ability to provide information in a suitable format so that the others’ needs are met and adjusts the level of content to help others understand. |  |
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| **Teamwork and Motivation**Can demonstrate the ability to work effectively as part of a team. Is willing to provide cover for colleagues and acts in a supportive manner. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Liaison and Networking**Can demonstrate the ability to work with others outside the immediate area to ensure that accurate information is passed on promptly to the most appropriate people to improve working practices. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Service Delivery**Has knowledge and understanding of services available to users of this and related areas of work and ensures that the experience of each customer is positive and satisfactory. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Planning and Organisation**Can demonstrate the ability to create realistic plans to achieve own deadlines and objectives. Monitors progress of self and/or others and can prioritise tasks/activities effectively. Suggests ways of improving working practices and use of resources. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Initiative and Problem Solving**Can demonstrate the ability to use initiative to recognise problems and offer solutions. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Analysis/Reporting**Can demonstrate the ability to use appropriate sources of data to answer questions, gather data systematically and carry out basic analysis accurately and methodically. | **Application/Interview** |
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| **Work Environment**Can demonstrate the ability to work with others to improve safe working practice and the environment. Ensures that follow up action is taken to remove identified hazards or risks. | **Application/Interview** |