

MRC UNIT THE GAMBIA JOB DESCRIPTION

Post-Doctoral Researcher

TB Immunology Laboratory Vaccines and Immunity Theme

1. Job Title: Post-Doctoral Researcher (TB Immunology)

2. Project Description

The post-holder will be involved in projects looking at the immunopathology of TB and will be expected to develop and oversee on-going and novel research within the TB Immunology laboratory. The post-holder will be responsible for immunological assays required as part of TB-Sequel, a new multi-site project looking at lung inflammation and long-term Sequelae of TB.

The post-holder will conduct, manage and oversee laboratory or clinical research activities to support projects and studies towards meeting the study objectives whilst at the same time building a researcher development path. The post-holder will be evaluated to transit into post-doctoral Researcher-2 after 3 years.

3. Person Specification:

Essential

- At least 4 years research experience (including PhD) in Clinical (human) Immunology.
- Strong flow cytometry skills
- Good communication skills including scientific discussion and writing
- Experience with computer-based analyses and presentation of experimental data
- Peer-reviewed publications

Desirable

- Experience with molecular assays, including real-time PCR
- Supervision skills

4. Role:

The post-holder will perform the following:

Technical:

- Develop, optimise and establish a range of laboratory procedures and immunology assays relevant to the project.
- A strong foundation in flow cytometry is required. Other techniques will include qPCR, luminex profiling and ELISA.
- Perform data analysis including use of statistical packages such as R.
- Writing and reviewing SOPs for the conduct of laboratory work for the study.
- Provide training to other study sites as needed.
- Contribute to grant writing as well as initiate own efforts to secure fellowships and grants.
- Develop career and mentorship plans and to actively liaise with Training and Career Development unit for opportunities to utilize researcher leadership program.

Management and Training

- Train staff in experimental techniques as needed.
- Supervision of staff towards meeting study objectives and timelines.
- Set up systems for validation of assays and assurance of laboratory data integrity.

- Ensure work practices within the research group comply with relevant international standards of good laboratory practice (e.g. GCLP and ISO 15189).
- Organise laboratory user training workshops and short term training programs, particularly on immunology techniques
- Support a robust laboratory internship programme that provides training at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels.
- Provide mentorship as needed

Communication:

- Contributing to the Units agenda to disseminate research findings both locally and internationally through participation in Unit seminars, regional and international scientific conferences.
- Publication of research in peer-reviewed journals.

5. Length of appointment:

The appointment will be for 4 years and is subject to a probationary period of 6 months.