Research Technician

**Department:** Biology

**Hours of work:** Part time | 18.5 hours per week | 0.50FTE

**Contract type:** Fixed term | Up to 12 months

**Salary:** £34,308 - £42,155 per year, reduced pro-rata for part time working
Introduction

A one year externally-funded project supporting the development of assays for CIZ1B lung cancer biomarker will begin in the lab of Professor Dawn Coverley in Autumn 2022. This role will involve analysis of human plasma, and protein level investigations of CIZ1B, and provide general support and liaison for Cizzles external projects. The post holder will manage human sample logs, data evaluation and standardization, culture facilities, safety protocols and budgeting. They will take part in training of new lab members in laboratory skills and support the smooth running of the lab by liaising directly with Professor Dawn Coverley. Flexible team working is encouraged, but must be managed by the post holder in relation to the job requirements.

Main purpose of the role

To provide technical and scientific support to a research project and/or programmes; to assist with and take responsibility for the organisation, housekeeping and operational management of the laboratory.

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- Take a lead in a technical specialism using refined skills and knowledge to interpret and implement mammalian cell and molecular biology techniques
- Design and construct scientific experiments using specialist relevant knowledge and skills.
- Liaise with staff and external service providers to ensure that detailed technical requirements are understood in the repair and maintenance of equipment
- Collaborate with colleagues to plan, organise and control activities so that the cell culture activities delivered to a high standard.
- Manage, review and implement procedures to maximise the efficient running of the technical work area under the direction of the PI
- Establish and maintain a safe and compliant working environment. Understand, promote and apply relevant COSHH/risk assessments and departmental health and safety protocols ensuring procedures are followed at all times. Take on specific safety roles where required.
- Use appropriate computational methods to analyse the data generated in the projects to agreed timeframes; providing appropriate interpretation.
- Manage and monitor a budget, source and negotiate with suppliers for items, including specialist parts and equipment.
- Present technical information within own area of expertise at meetings, and take part in discussions to inform on scientific advancement.
- Draft and provide inductions, training and demonstrations of specialist techniques.
- To actively demonstrate a commitment to professional development by continuing to advance knowledge, understanding and competencies.
- Maintain up to date knowledge of cancer biology investigate and propose improvements to services, advocating best working practice.
# Person specification

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree, or equivalent relevant experience in the area of mammalian cell biology</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Higher qualification, or experience relevant to cancer research</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge of regulations surrounding use of hazardous chemicals (COSHH) and genetically modified microorganisms</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broad understanding and in-depth knowledge of research involving human tissues, and of the relevant HTA, GDPR and safety legislation &amp; regulations</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of the management of the technical work space occupied by the specialism</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>In depth and current theoretical and practical knowledge of cancer biology and techniques in cancer cell analysis</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>In depth knowledge of mammalian primary cell culture, quality control and maintenance</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proven track record in the application of molecular biology techniques</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven ability to work independently with initiative, using problem solving and analytical skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent IT and analytical skills using a range of specialist software</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to present complex ideas in a clear and concise manner</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competent in the operation and maintenance of equipment in a mammalian cell culture facility</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to analyse and interpret complex data and to design and deliver training on specialism</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to contribute to specification documentation for the procurement and service of specialist equipment</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competent in statistical and mathematical methods for analysis, and able to provide scientific data in written format for publications</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to identify trends in area of specialism and discuss with management</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to produce written risk assessments for hazardous chemicals and GMO work</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrable in-depth experience in working with mammalian cells and of applying mammalian cell and molecular biology techniques</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of working on own initiative</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of training others in lab techniques and use of microscopes</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of applying knowledge to improve service of cell culture facilities</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of writing project reports for managers</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience of inducting new members in chemical safety protocols, and of generation of risk assessments and SOP’s for hazardous chemicals (COSHH) and GMO/pathogenic microorganisms</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of laboratory management including monitoring grant accounts</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<th>Personal Attributes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Actively demonstrate commitment to professional development, advance knowledge, understanding &amp; competencies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Flexible attitude towards work, willingness to respond to time led demands</td>
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<td>Good interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively with staff, students and external stakeholders</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Able to maintain a positive, open attitude toward others, to value and support colleagues. The ability to respond and integrate change and to demonstrate personal resilience</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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