IMPERIAL

Pathology Research Technician

Department/Division/Faculty:	Metabolism, Digestion and Reproduction, Faculty of Medicine
Campus/Location:	Charing Cross Campus
Job Family/Level:	Professional Services Level 3b (Salary scales)
Responsible to:	Professor Robert Goldin
Line management for:	N/A
Key working Relationships (Internal):	Professors Robert Goldin and Iain McNeish, other staff members in the research pathology facility
Key Working Relationships (External):	N/A
Contract type:	Full time - fixed term for 20 months in the first instance

Purpose of the Post

The purpose of this post is to provide high-quality histological support to various translational projects. You will be based in the Faculty of Medicine's research pathology facility at Charing Cross Hospital Campus of Imperial College, and you will provide a full range of pathology services, including embedding, sectioning, H&E, immunohistochemistry and multiplex immunofluorescence. You will work alongside other staff members in the research pathology facility to develop and deliver an excellent service to researchers in the Faculty of Medicine, with a focus on projects from the Department of Surgery and Cancer.

Key Responsibilities

- The post is within the Department of Metabolism, Digestion and Reproduction and you will provide support for biomarker studies and work in conjunction with scientists within Faculty of Medicine, in particular the Department of Surgery and Cancer.
- To provide high quality histological service for range of translational research projects being undertaken in the research pathology facility.
- To liaise with principal investigators and research teams in developing and executing analytical plans for histological analyses.
- To carry out histological processing of research tissue samples including fixing, embedding and preparing paraffin blocks.
- To section FFPE and frozen tissue samples including sections for spatial transcriptomics.

- To work independently and optimise and validate antibodies for immunostaining and develop and establish standard operating procedures.
- Perform routine stains such as H&E, Ki67.
- To perform multiplex immunofluorescence using the COMET Lunaphore system.
- To collaborate in the development of new histological techniques, e.g. RNAScope.
- Travel and work at other Imperial campuses in order to access and use specialist histology equipment and services where necessary.
- To scan and analyse stained slides and archive images.
- Maintain good laboratory records ensuring that work carried out complies with applicable regulations.
- To liaise with pathologist in annotating tissue sections and scoring of biomarker staining.
- To construct tissue microarray, section and stain for required biomarkers.
- Store and track histological specimens for research projects in line with Tissue Bank protocols and HTA legislations.
- To be responsible for efficient operation and day to day running of the research pathology service, including ordering consumables and maintenance of equipment.
- Ensure that work performed is commensurate with the standards of GCLP and taking the necessary measures to ensure it meets key deliverables and targets.
- For certain research projects, perform analyses using specific techniques such as immunocytochemistry, immunofluorescence, in situ hybridisation, proximity ligation assays.
- To extract nucleic acids and proteins from biospecimens as needed.
- Attend and contribute to laboratory meetings and preparation of grant reports, scientific publications and presentations.
- Provide advice and training on specific immunohistochemistry methodologies to investigators and students.
- To take an interest in the relevant scientific literature and introduce new methodologies related to tissue/biofluid-based analyses as appropriate.
- To work as part of a team and provide cover for other research pathology staff when necessary.
- To help maintain a highly efficient working laboratory.

Person Specification

Requirements Candidates/post holders will be expected to demonstrate the following:	**Essential (E)/ Desirable (D)**
Education	
Educated to Masters level or equivalent experience in a biological discipline.	E

Experience	
Proven research experience in a technical or scientific role.	E
Experience in histological processing of tissue samples	E
Experience in optimising and validating new antibodies for immunostaining work.	E
Prior ability in tissue microarray construction and analysis.	E
Data analysis and presentation ability including statistical software and Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.	E
Experience with multiplex immunofluorescence.	D
Experience preparing slides for spatial transcriptomics	D

Knowledge	
Working knowledge of microscopy	E
Knowledge of ethical requirements (Human Tissue Act) around tissue/biofluid storage and their use.	E
Knowledge of cell biology, pathology and recognising tumour tissue.	E
Working knowledge of biochemical assays and/or *in vitro* cancer studies.	E

Skills & Abilities	
Well-developed analytical and problem-solving skills.	E
Ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines whilst maintaining a high degree of accuracy.	E
Able to keep good laboratory records and understand importance of quality in all aspect of laboratory work.	E
Excellent organisational skills and ability to maintain an efficient and tidy laboratory.	E
Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively as part of a team.	E
Be willing to provide training and assistance to others and participate in patient public engagement events	E
Experiencing in ordering consumables and maintaining of equipment.	E

Further Information

Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities.

Our values are at the root of everything we do and everyone in our community is expected to demonstrate Imperial:

- Respect
- Collaboration
- Excellence

- Integrity
- Innovation

Employees are also required to comply with all Imperial policies and regulations.

We are committed to equality of opportunity, to eliminating discrimination and to creating an inclusive working environment for all. We encourage candidates to apply irrespective of age, disability, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion and belief, gender reassignment, sex, or sexual orientation. You can read more about our commitment on our webpages.

Imperial is a proud signatory to the San-Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), which means that in hiring and promotion decisions, we evaluate applicants on the quality of their work, not the journal impact factor where it is published. For more information, see https://www.imperial.ac.uk/research-and-innovation/about-imperial-research/research-evaluation/

Imperial believes that the use of animals in research is vital to improve human and animal health and welfare. Animals may only be used in research programmes which are ultimately aimed towards finding new treatments and making scientific and medical advances, and where there are no satisfactory or reasonably practical alternatives to their use. Imperial is committed to ensuring that, in cases where this research is deemed essential, all animals in our care are treated with full respect, and that all staff involved with this work show due consideration at every level. Find out more about animal research at Imperial.

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