# CORE JOB DESCRIPTION

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| **Job Title:** | Research Fellow in Laboratory-based Cancer Systems Biology Research |
| **Grade:** | Research Fellow , Grade 7 |
| **School:** | Brighton and Sussex Medical School |
| **Location:** | Medical Research Building |
| **Responsible to:** | Principal Investigator through to Head of School |
| **Direct reports:** | n/a |
| **Key contacts:** | Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University. |
| **Role description:** | Research Fellow is an early career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff. |

## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To produce high quality research data, both as an individual and as part of the team, leading to high-impact publications.

2. To support other team members with their research projects.

3. To actively engage with the laboratory housekeeping and ordering associated with high quality research activity.

4. To contribute fully to the school by participating in meetings and working groups when requested.

5. To present results at national and international cancer research and systems buiology meetings.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

1.1 Conduct a UKRI funded research project under the direction of the PI, while shaping the project direction.

1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.

1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings, distill these findings into publication-quality figures and draw conclusions on the outcomes.

1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in internationally recognised journals.

1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.

1.6 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.

1.7 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

1.8 Keep up-to-date and accurate records of all experimental data and computational code, and make these accessible to the PI and research team.

### 2. Teaching & Student Support

3.1 While the primary focus is research you will have the option to contribute to some teaching if desired.

2.1 Assist in the assessment of student projects.

2.2 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

### 3. Contribution to School & University

3.2 Attend and contribute to relevant research and project meetings.

## 4. Role-specific duties

4.1 Integrate into the research team and contribute to the supervision and management of junior team members including MD/PhDs and fellows.

4.2 Work with the existing team members to develop effective collaborations with clinical units and basic science laboratories within the region and more widely to optimise performance.

4.3 Contribute to laboratory housekeeping and management duties.

4.4 Assume responsibility of the research team in the absence of senior team members.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

## INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD, soon to be completed PhD, or new original research).
- Evidence of successful engagement in supervision.
- Evidence of sustained productivity through publications, pre-publication data, and computational analyses.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

## ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).

2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.

3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

4. Ability to work independently. Self-starters with a desire to use their own initiative to contribute to the development of this project are particularly encouraged to apply

5. Desire to contribute to a dynamic and collaborative interdisciplinary research environment.

6. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.

7. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

8. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

9. Desire to rapidly gain computational or experimental biology expertise required for ther role.

## ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. You must have obtained, or by on-track to submit a thesis for, a postgraduate degree at Doctorate level, or other equivalent qualification.
2. Evidence of a competence in a wide range of laboratory-based skills including those associated with culturing and analysing tumour cells.

3. Evidence of successful collaboration as part of interdisciplinary teams.

4. Evidence of critical thinking and strong analytical skills.

5. Evidence of facility with computational biology techniques and ability to rapidly gain new skills in this area as required.

## DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.

3. Experience of working with human tissue and HTA regulation

4. Experience of some or all of flow cytometry, gene expression analysis, immunofluorescence, Western blotting, and drug response assays

5. Experience in laboratory housekeeping.

6. Experience writing computer programs.

7. Experience with quantitative/mathematical biology.