EMPLOYMENT/CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Unit is an internationally recognised centre of excellence with dominant research themes in the areas of HIV and emerging infections, vaccines and immunity, and chronic diseases and cancer. Through a multidisciplinary approach, intersecting basic science, epidemiological research, social-behavioural research and the conduct of new intervention evaluation studies, the Unit contributes knowledge on changing epidemics and diseases, the evaluation of innovative health care options, treatment and prevention and the development of health policy and practice in Africa and worldwide. Following the signing of strategic transfer agreements between the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the Medical Research Council (MRC UK), the Unit formally joined LSHTM on 1st February 2018. The exciting new partnership will boost research capacity into current and emerging health issues in Africa and throughout the world. The Unit is based at the UVRI Entebbe campus with established outposts in Kalungu, Masaka, Wakiso and Kampala Districts. The Unit is now seeking enthusiastic and experienced individuals to fill the following position:

Senior Laboratory Technologist (01 Position)
Position Code: SLT -820
Reports to: Senior Immunologist
Station: Entebbe
Duration: 2 years

Job Purpose:

The senior laboratory technologist will be primarily responsible for the perICOVID study, seeking to understand transmission and immunity to SARS-COV-2 in pregnant women and their infants at five sites in Uganda and seven countries worldwide. The study will take samples from all pregnant women to investigate asymptomatic infection and immunity and how these are passed from mother to child to help inform hospital infection prevention and control policies and to reassure pregnant women about how best to look after their baby. The position may also be involved in the project management of other studies under the SGUL portfolio at the MRC unit.

Roles & Responsibilities

1. Study Implementation.
   - Oversee and coordinate the day to day activities of the study and ensure collection of quality data;
   - Liaise with MUJHU staff to ensure coordination between the MRC and MUJHU clinical teams;
- Liaise with SGUL for the co-ordination of the study;
- Participate in Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) development;
- Develop and implement a sample flow plan to ensure that samples are transported from sites to the labs in a timely manner, that the labs analyse these samples in a reasonable timeframe, that results are entered into the results database and that these results are reported back to the sites for clinical management;
- Liaise with the lab teams (microbiology, UVRI, immunology) to ensure that samples are correctly tracked, processed and stored in the biobank;
- Ensure the activities and outputs achieved are in line with the protocol, project plan and budget;
- Ensure integrity of study data through QA/QC activities/procedures and strong data management;
- Coordinate with the different internal and external stakeholders involved in the study including the Community Advisory Board, multiple Ugandan institutions and EDCTP consortia members; and,
- Undertake laboratory studies and analysis, such as ELISAs, flow cytometry and in vitro stimulations.

2. **Data analysis and dissemination**

- Contribute to data analysis and publications and presentations and ensure dissemination of key results to key stakeholders.

3. **Study reporting**

- Develop monthly reporting for SGUL and sites, develop social media updates and participate in the reporting of the social science aspects of the study.

**Person Specification**

- Master’s degree in immunology (or equivalent);
- Minimum of 3 years’ practical experience in clinical laboratory in a medical research setting;
- Experience working with immunological assays;
- Experience in cell culture, including proliferation and invasion assays, co-culture experiments, transfection, virus production and infection;
- Experience with vaccine research is an added advantage;
- Project management experience is desired;
- Should have knowledge of ethical regulations around sample storage;
- Should have good practical skills in the required clinical laboratory techniques;
- Equipment troubleshooting skills / GCLP/ documentation skills;
- Should possess a current Allied Health Professions licence;
- Should possess computer skills with proficiency in Word, Excel, Access & Power point;
- Great communication skills; and,
- Good interpersonal skills.
How to Apply

Follow the link below to fill a form and submit your application documentation:

https://redcap.link/SeniorLabTech

Filling the form more than once will lead to automatic disqualification. High level of integrity while filling the form is required and will be considered during shortlisting.

Deadline for application is 28th August 2020, 5:00pm. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview. This position is open to Ugandan nationals only. Strictly follow the application procedure as failure to do so will lead to automatic disqualification.

The applications should be addressed to:

The Head of Human Resources,
MRC/ UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research Unit,
P.O. Box, 49,
Entebbe, Uganda.

Consider your application unsuccessful if not contacted within eight (8) weeks after the closing date of the advert. Any form of lobbying at any stage will lead to automatic disqualification. By submitting your personal information, you consent to the MRC/ UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research Unit holding and using it in accordance with its recruitment policy and procedure. The Unit reserves the right to verify documents attached with the relevant awarding institutions to authenticate their validity.

MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Uganda research Unit is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse work force and does not ask for money at any stage of recruitment.