



SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

(Payclass 08; 3 - year contract on T2 conditions of service)

Division of Medical Virology/Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine
Department of Pathology
Faculty of Health Sciences

Introductory paragraph

This position is funded by the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) as a member of a consortium established to implement an mRNA Vaccine Technology Transfer Hub in the Republic of South Africa with the aim of ensuring sustainable vaccine security for COVID-19 and future pandemics. We are looking for a scientific officer to join our Vaccine Development Group which has a research focus on HIV vaccine development. The main purpose of this position is to generate recombinant modified vaccinia Ankara (MVA) to be used as vaccines for HIV-1 in conjunction with mRNA vaccines expressing matching HIV-1 antigens. This work forms part of a project to develop HIV-1 subtype C mRNA vaccines.

Requirements for the job:

- MSc in molecular biology, virology, microbiology, biochemistry or a related discipline.
- Experience in cell culture.
- Computer literacy.
- Experience in standard molecular biology techniques – PCR, cloning, protein characterization by immunoassays.
- Minimum experience of 2 years in molecular biology and cell culture.

The following will be advantageous:

- Experience in making recombinant poxviruses.
- Experience in flow cytometry.
- Experience in preparation of samples for electron microscopy.
- Experience in fluorescent microscopy & electron microscopy.
- Experience in the HIV field of research.

Responsibilities:

- Planning, implementation & quality control of project to ensure delivery of objectives.
- Contribution to the research agenda of the mRNA Vaccine Technology Transfer Hub.
- Assistance with laboratory operations.
- Conducting laboratory / research work
- Reporting of results.
- Maintenance of requirements for Health & Safety of laboratories.

The annual cost of employment, including benefits (*where applicable*), is between R393 399,00 and R462 822,00 (Payclass 08).

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Sue Lanfear at Susan.Lanfear@uct.ac.za

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Cover letter, and
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) including names of 2 contactable referees.

Please ensure the title and reference number are indicated in the subject line.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and may be required to undergo an assessment.

Telephone: 021 650 6679
Website: <https://health.uct.ac.za/medical-virology>
Reference number: E23315
Closing date: 14 April 2023

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UCT reserves the right not to appoint.