



INVESTIGATOR: MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY (Payclass 10; 5-year contract) **Drug Discovery and Development Centre (H3D)** **Faculty of Science**

The Drug Discovery and Development Centre (H3D) is an interdisciplinary, soft-funded research unit at the University of Cape Town. H3D staff and laboratories are situated across three sites on the UCT campus. H3D is seeking to appoint an Investigator on a 5-year contract, starting on 1 December 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter. This position will be predominantly laboratory-based with the main purpose in taking a leading role in the synthesis of novel compounds to optimize drug-like properties on drug discovery projects.

Requirements for the job:

- PhD in an appropriate discipline or equivalent qualification
- 2 or more years industrial or academic experience in a drug discovery or related research laboratory
- A track record of publications in medicinal chemistry and/or organic chemistry journals with major contributions to compound synthesis
- Up to date on laboratory technologies and strong bench experience in synthetic organic chemistry and characterisation of organic compounds
- Comfortable working in a matrix-based organizational structure

Advantages:

- Experience in a drug discovery team either in a university setting or at a pharmaceutical/biotech company
- Demonstrated ability to use structure-activity relationships and other medicinal chemistry practices to aid optimization of "hit to lead" and lead to preclinical candidate
- Proficiency in the use of all equipment in a modern chemistry laboratory including parallel synthesis, automated purifications techniques

Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Independently synthesize compounds within a team setting with the goal to identify pre-clinical drug candidates.
- Use structure-activity relationships and other medicinal chemistry practices to aid optimization of "hit to lead" and lead to preclinical candidate
- Comply with standard operating procedures for laboratory safety, use of instruments and data management.
- Participate and present work in project meetings and write research reports.

The annual cost of employment, including benefits, is between R580 137 and R682 513

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms Natasha Khan at recruitment06@uct.ac.za

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Cover letter stating your suitability for the role
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)

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 a competency test.

Telephone: 021 650 3469

Website: www.h3d.uct.ac.za

Reference number: E230347

Closing date: 25 October 2023

UCT is a designated employer and is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets in accordance with the Employment Equity Plan of the University and its Employment Equity goals and targets. Preference will be given to candidates from the under-represented designated groups. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf.

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.