



Job title	Research Technician	Job family and level	Technical Services Level 3
School/ Department	School of Pharmacy	Location	The University of Nottingham Biodiscovery Institute, University Park

Purpose of role

Scientists at the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University are developing a DNA vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Experts from both universities are working with Scancell Holdings plc, a developer of novel immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer, to adapt its existing cancer vaccine platform for the development of a new vaccine. See

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/news/funding-for-covid-19-vaccine-to-clinical-trials-for-further-information>.

Innovate UK, as part of UK Research and Innovation's response to COVID-19, are funding this Research Technician position to aid the translation of the vaccine. Work will involve characterisation and testing of vaccine variants and a development system to scale and formulate the vaccine for future clinical trials.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Support research staff and consortium towards development of nanoparticle formulation of Covid19 vaccines <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support to test iterations of GET peptide system for formulation optimization with research staff (Physical and cellular activity characterization)	40%
2	Support research staff and consortium to incorporate delivery modifications into the present formulation, aiding next-generation system development <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support of in vitro testing of chemical and physical improvements to formulation and delivery	20%
3	Contribute to report generation and collaborator/industrial interaction <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support presentation of data to maintain effective communication within collaborator consortium	10%
4	Support pre-clinical and clinical testing of vaccine candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support provision of expertise to the industrial partner for quality control and to support formulation and characterization for in vivo testing.	10%
5	Support wider group activities with technical support provision <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide wider technical support for the PI group (cataloguing, preparation of cells, reagents, limited training)	20%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nanoparticle characterization (DLS, Zeta-sizing) and imaging (TEM) experience ▪ Cell culture experience ▪ Ability to plan and organise work activities ▪ Proven communication skills to enable the identification and understanding of staff/student requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flow cytometry ▪ Transfection assays (reporter assays such as luciferase and GFP)
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previous relevant technical support role ▪ Proven analytical and problem solving capability ▪ An understanding of regulations and procedures, (including Home Office, Health and Safety) and the implications of non-compliance on other staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-viral gene delivery technologies ▪ Vector design and engineering
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum of HNC in relevant subject, or equivalent qualifications, plus considerable work experience in a relevant role OR substantial work experience in a relevant role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previous animal work experience ▪ PIL licensee course



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

Valuing people	Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
Taking ownership	Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
Forward thinking	Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
Professional pride	Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
Always inclusive	Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

Key relationships with others

