University of Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Role profile

Job title	Research Associate/Fellow	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4
School/ Department	School of Life Sciences	Location	Medical School

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role will be to work on an MRC funded project – 'Muscle Mass and The Menopause: Gender-specific Strategies To Mitigate Sarcopenia In Aging Populations. The role is focussed on the delivery of a human volunteer study involving exercise and implementation of stable isotope tracers. The study will involve collection of biological samples and subsequent analysis using mass spectrometry and molecular biology techniques. The post holder will be expected to undertake independent research as well as working as part of a team this will include using approaches or methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research and will be responsible for writing up their work to contribute to published outcomes. The role holder will have the opportunity to use their initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop research methods and extend their research portfolio.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	**% time per year**
1	Co-ordination and preparation of human volunteer studies to be undertaken in the David Greenfield Human Physiology Unit and liaise with site personnel to organise resources and ensure all local and national regulatory requirements are met. Recruit and screen subjects in consultation with the CRF to provide suitable research volunteers to meet recruitment timelines. Check all screening and recruitment documentation and to ensure subjects meet inclusion criteria. Complete human volunteer study visits including the implementation of exercise and stable isotope tracers. Receive biological samples, process, and store appropriately.	40%
2	Process human biological samples for mass spectrometry and molecular biology analysis. This includes fractionation of human muscle and blood samples. Analysis will include the use of stable isotope tracers to determine muscle protein turnover, protein/gene expression via immunoblotting/RT-PCR, and immunohistochemistry.	40%
5	To plan and conduct research using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area and support the development of research objectives and proposals for own and/or collaborative research area.	5%

6	To plan and manage own research activity and resolve problems, if required, in meeting own/team research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others.	5%
7	To provide guidance as required to support staff and students, where appropriate in own area of expertise and collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared interest for example, collaborative or joint research projects.	5%
8	To contribute to writing up research findings for publication.	5%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. ▪ Developing research skills, with the ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods. ▪ Ability to contribute to method improvement. ▪ Independent analytical skills with evidence of handling and processing blood and muscle samples in human volunteer studies. ▪ Demonstration of advanced skills in molecular biology and cellular biochemistry. ▪ To facilitate conceptual thinking, innovation and creativity. ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally.	▪ Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy effectively. ▪ Ability to foster a research culture and commitment to learn in others. ▪ High analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interprets reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights.
Knowledge and experience	▪ Evidence of sufficient breadth or depth of research methodologies and techniques to work in the area of human metabolic physiology and/or nutrition. ▪ Some practical experience of applying the specialist skills approaches and techniques required for a role in human metabolic physiology and/or nutrition research. ▪ Evidence of using research methodologies and techniques to work within the research area of human metabolic physiology and/or nutrition research.	▪ Experience of developing new approaches, models, techniques or methods in research area.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	▪ PhD in human metabolism or close to completion.	▪ Master's Degree, or equivalent in relevant subject area.


Athena
SWAN
Silver Award
GENDER CHARTER

Race
Equality
Charter
Bronze Award
RACE CHARTER

disability
confident
COMMITTED

Stonewall
DIVERSITY
CHAMPION

Signatory of
DORA

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