



INSTITUTE FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
PIRBRIGHT LABORATORY

Research Scientist
POST REF: 09P0035

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Institute for Animal Health (IAH) is one of five research institutes of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and is at the forefront of research into animal diseases.

It is based on two sites: **Compton (near Newbury)** and **Pirbright (near Woking)** where this post is based. In total, the Institute employs some 400 staff and, at any one time, is host to up to 50 students and visiting scientists

PURPOSE

To perform innovative research and identify novel findings in the field of FMDV immunology, in particular dissecting the CD4 T-cell response.

To ensure the safe and efficient running of the laboratory, including working to quality assurance standards

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The proposed studies encompass experiments to compare the kinetics, viral antigen specificity and cytokine profiles of CD4 T cell responses in vaccinated and infected cattle, and to examine the distribution and properties of CD4 T cells in tissues of cattle undergoing infection or challenge with FMDV. The latter will be closely linked with the studies of secretory antibody responses and will also include analyses of cells in tissues for CD8 T cells, using lineage-specific markers and class I tetramers when they become available.

The Band D-post holder will be required to conduct a program of research. The responsibilities for their own work and of others in the groups will extend to designing, planning and execution of experiments. Animal studies will comprise a large component of the work, so eligibility to apply for a home office license is necessary.

In addition, the post holder will be required to work in a safe (CoSHH risk assessments, ACDP infectious substance handling regulations) and efficient manner in a quality assurance frame work.

Essential

The Institute is engaged in Research work on a number of virus diseases of live stock, several of which, in particular foot-and-mouth disease, are highly infectious to livestock, therefore compliance with the Disease Security Regulations is an essential requirement of employment.

The Employee must not live on any premises where any cloven hoofed animals are kept, such as cattle, sheep, pigs, goats or deer, and must not visit any premises where such animals are kept within three days of entering the restricted area of the laboratory, or within five days of entering the restricted animal accommodation.

All employees shall actively participate in the IAH-wide quality assurance system in conjunction with the Institute Quality Manager. Employees are also expected to safeguard their own health and safety and security by following IAH policies and all employees are responsible for the Health and Safety and security of staff under their management.

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Veterinary degree (BSc) in immunology or a related area
- Ability to be self motivated, work collaboratively and communicate effectively
- The ability to work to strict protocols
- Excellent communication skills, verbal and written
- Meticulous attention to detail – essential as you will be writing up data as research communications (refereed papers)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information or an informal discussion of how the Institute operates and the challenges which will face the successful candidate please telephone or write to the Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright Laboratory, Ash Road, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0NF (tel.01483 232 441) or email pirbright.hr@bbsrc.ac.uk

BENEFITS OF THE POST

The post is graded at Band D and is an indefinite contract, with funding for 1 year (28th February 2011). Starting salary is £26,610 to £29,566 depending on qualifications and experience. On appointment, you are eligible to join the Research Council's Pension Scheme. You have the choice of either:

- an attractive, index-linked defined benefit pension scheme that currently has a 3.5% member contribution rate. The bulk of the cost of this scheme is met by the employer: or
- a stakeholder pension with a contribution from the employer. Our basic contribution is based on your age, and we pay this regardless of whether you choose to contribute anything. You do not have to contribute if you do not wish to but, if you do, we will also match your contributions up to an additional 3% of pay.

Annual leave is 27 days on appointment plus 10.5 days public and privilege holidays. The Institute has a subsidised child care scheme, staff restaurant and free parking. Staff work a 37 hour week, Monday to Friday.

Closing date: 17th March 2010