

Job Description



Position Title	Research Officer/Senior Research Officer	Level	A/B
Reports to (role)	Head, Strep A Pathogenesis and Diagnostics	Career Stream	Research
Team	Strep A Pathogenesis and Diagnostics		
Location	The Kids Research Institute Australia, Perth Children's Hospital, 15 Hospital Ave, Nedlands		

PURPOSE OF POSITION

The purpose of this position is to manage a program of research examining tonsil infections by Group A Streptococcus (GAS). The Research Officer or Senior Research Officer (level dependent on experience) will undertake specific research on GAS invasion into host cells, intracellular survival and susceptibility to antibiotics. The role allows for the development and conduct of related research activities on pathogenesis of Strep A infection, including funding applications and other high-quality research outputs. The role also holds the opportunity for collaboration with interstate and international colleagues.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Key Responsibilities	Tasks required to achieve Key Responsibilities	Measures
Research Activities	- Under the supervision of the project lead, manage a GAS research program encompassing a range of microbiology and cell biology techniques and adapting new research methods as necessary. - Maintain accurate records of results. - Undertake laboratory work of the highest standard. - Publish high quality research outputs and submit competitive grant applications. - Develop a program of independent research related to the core aspects of GAS pathogenesis of host epithelial tissues.	- Experimental reproducibility & integrity. - Timelines in achieving project aims and milestones. - Positive feedback from lead investigators, team members and collaborators. - High quality research outputs, including peer-reviewed journal publications and successful grant applications.
Publications and Engagement	- Contribute to and, as appropriate, lead in the preparation of journal articles for publication. - Present research findings at selected conferences nationally and internationally.	Success in scientific outputs (journal articles, conference presentations).

Project Management and Administration	• Where appropriate, assist with the preparation of relevant applications for laboratory projects (i.e. biohazard, OGTR, and ethics applications). • Generate and maintain SOP's. • Conduct administration relating to the project. • Assist with ordering supplies and liaising with suppliers. • Adherence to national and institutional guidelines on laboratory use, safety, ethics and patient confidentiality, including GLP, GCP and OHS requirements.	• Successfully obtain approval for projects where required. • Ensure timeliness of reporting for necessary grants and ethics. • Ensure grant spending for projects is within budget. • Effective and clear standard operating procedures. • Contribution to the operation of the wider working environment.
Development & Team Membership	• Supervise and mentor laboratory assistants, research students and early career researchers as required. • Be a role model for effective and positive leadership which is ethical, results driven and future oriented.	• Positive feedback from students, research team, chief investigators and collaborators.
Workplace Safety	• Take reasonable care for your own safety and health and avoid harming the safety and health of others through any act or omission at work. • Identify and assess workplace hazards and apply hazard controls. • Report every workplace injury, illness or near miss, no matter how insignificant they seem. • Abide by Institute policies and procedures.	• Responsibilities are embedded in work practices. • Hazards are effectively managed or reported. • Accidents and incidents are reported in a timely manner. • All applicable safety policies and procedures are sought.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Qualifications:	PhD in Microbiology and/or Cell Biology.
Essential Skills, Knowledge & Experience:	• Strong general microbiology techniques, including bacterial culture, cloning, PCR etc. • Experience with mammalian cell culture. • Knowledge of L-forms. • Demonstrated track record of productivity, as evidenced by publications, conference presentations etc. • Strong experimental design, troubleshooting and data interpretation skills. • Excellent written and oral communication skills. • Proven ability to work independently and collaboratively as part of a team.
Desirable Skills, Knowledge & Experience:	• Expertise in bacterial pathogenesis research, including construction of bacterial mutants and infection of host cells or animal models with bacterial strains. • Microscopy expertise, including epifluorescence and/or confocal. • Experience with primary cell culture.



	• Experience working with human histological specimens. • Competitive publication record relative to career stage.
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DIRECT REPORTS	N/A
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Approved by:	Head, Strep A Pathogenesis & Diagnostics
Date approved:	07.08.26
Reviewed by P&C:	07.08.26