

Job Description



Position Title	Senior Research Officer	Level	B
Reports to (role)	Head, Mitochondrial Medicine and Biology	Career Stream	Research
Team	Mitochondrial Medicine and Biology		
Location	Kids Research Institute Australia, Perth Children's Hospital, 15 Hospital Ave, Nedlands		

PURPOSE OF POSITION

The Senior Research Officer will undertake and coordinate experimental research for CodeBreakers Pty Ltd, with the position administered through The Kids Research Institute Australia. The role will develop and evaluate gene-editing and RNA-based approaches relevant to mitochondrial gene expression and function using mammalian cell and mouse models. The position requires substantial hands-on expertise in gene editing, RNA biology, mitochondrial biology and mouse work, together with strong molecular and cell biology, experimental design and data analysis skills.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Key Responsibilities	Tasks required to achieve Key Responsibilities	Measures
Research Activities	- Design and perform gene-editing experiments, including construct and guide design, delivery, validation, and generation and characterisation of edited mammalian cell models. - Design and perform RNA biology experiments, including RNA manipulation, expression and processing analyses, and RNA-editing or post-transcriptional assays relevant to mitochondrial gene expression. - Perform mitochondrial biology experiments and functional analyses in mammalian cell models and tissues. - Plan and conduct mouse experiments, including in vivo study design, tissue collection and downstream molecular and functional analyses; establish, refine and optimise protocols as required.	- Research activities are accurate, of a high quality and communicated in a timely manner. - Feedback from supervisor and other stakeholders.
Research Management	Monitor and report on progress against CodeBreakers project milestones, identify barriers and risks, and implement effective solutions.	Project deliverables executed on time and to budget.

	• Maintain accurate and traceable laboratory, data and project records to support reproducibility, project milestones and intellectual property management. • Prepare and maintain animal ethics, biosafety and other governance approvals required for the research program. • Liaise with CodeBreakers, The Kids and internal and external collaborators, providing timely updates to the project team.	• Formal and informal feedback from internal and external stakeholders. • Project conducted in line with ethics and governance requirements.
Research Dissemination and Knowledge Translation	• Contribute to scientific manuscripts, technical reports and other research documentation, subject to CodeBreakers and The Kids intellectual property and confidentiality requirements. • Support translation of research findings toward therapeutic development and achievement of project milestones.	• Research outputs, technical reports and milestone documentation are completed to the required standard and timelines. • Research findings are communicated appropriately to internal and external stakeholders. • Collaborative research networks are established and maintained while intellectual property and confidentiality requirements are observed.
Development and Team Membership	• Mentor and provide training to junior research staff and students. • Contribute to the strategic direction of the CodeBreakers research program and the broader team. • Actively support colleagues and contribute to related research projects within CodeBreakers. • Actively participate in team meetings.	• Positive feedback from team members. • Acknowledged as working collaboratively and effectively.
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 The Kids 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, understood and implemented.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Qualifications:	A PhD or equivalent in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Genetics, Cell Biology or a closely related discipline.
Essential Skills, Knowledge & Experience:	• Demonstrated expertise in gene editing or genome engineering, including CRISPR/Cas or related approaches and validation of edited mammalian cell models. • Strong expertise in RNA biology, including RNA manipulation and analysis; experience in RNA editing or post-transcriptional gene regulation is highly relevant. • Hands-on experience with mouse work, including in vivo experimental design, tissue collection and working under animal ethics approvals. • Highly developed written and verbal communication skills • Strong molecular and cell biology skills, including cloning, mammalian cell culture, experimental design, data analysis and interpretation. • Ability to work independently, with minimal supervision and work productively as part of a team. • Experience supervising and training honours students and other research personnel.
Desirable Skills, Knowledge & Experience:	• Experience with RNA editing, mitochondrial disease models, omics/bioinformatics, or development of therapeutic gene- or RNA-based technologies. • Demonstrated expertise in mitochondrial biology, including mitochondrial gene expression, function and/or disease mechanisms.

DIRECT REPORTS	0
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Approved by:	Head, Mitochondrial Medicine and Biology
Date approved:	25 August 2026
Reviewed by P&C:	27 August 2026