



JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (3-year contract)

**UCT RESEARCH CENTRE FOR HEALTH THROUGH
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, LIFESTYLE AND SPORT
DIVISION OF EXERCISE SCIENCE & SPORTS MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN BIOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**



The University of Cape Town's Health through Physical Activity and Lifestyle (HPALS) Research Centre is based within the Department of Human Biology in the Faculty of Health Sciences. Its mission is, through integrated multidisciplinary research, to optimize human performance and to promote health and well-being. To this end, it aims to address the growing pandemics of obesity and inactivity and to reduce the burden of disease and injury through physical activity and sports participation. A major research thrust of HPALS, for which it is recognised as a global leader, is the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms underpinning connective tissue injury such as tendon and ligament. HPALS therefore seeks to employ a Junior Research Fellow to conduct research in this specific area.

During their tenure, the incumbent is expected to: undertake independent research, mentor postgraduate students, secure research funding; and develop national and international research partnerships, collaborations and network ties. Candidates who are committed to establishing academic or research careers in Africa are encouraged to apply.

Requirements

- A PhD in molecular biology/ cell biology or a closely related biological sciences field.
- A minimum of 2 years of relevant postdoctoral research experience.
- A track record of relevant publications in the discipline of molecular and cell biology.

In addition to the above, the following would be advantageous

- A publication record in the research field of the biological mechanisms of tendon and ligament injury susceptibility.
- Evidence showcasing the ability to work in an interdisciplinary environment.
- Experience in postgraduate student mentorship.
- Experience in writing research grant proposals.

Responsibilities

- Undertake research to elucidate the molecular mechanisms underpinning tendon and ligament injury susceptibility and to establish the necessary functional tools.
- Publishing research findings and delivering seminar and conference presentations.
- Conceptualise and prepare funding proposals for local and international funding agencies.
- Co-supervise postgraduate students.
- Provide research support in areas of expertise.
- Research project administration.
- Contribute to the functional activities, including social responsiveness and engaged scholarship, within HPALS and the Division of Exercise Science and Sports Medicine.

The annual remuneration package for 2020 for this 3-year fixed-term contract position is between R470 033 and R651 323.

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms Vathiswa Mbangi at recruitment05@uct.ac.za

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- A one-page letter of motivation that includes a statement of research interests and highlighting how the candidate meets the requirements listed on the advert
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please ensure the title and reference number are indicated in the subject line.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete.

Telephone: 021 650 3003

Website: www.humanbiology.uct.ac.za

Reference number: E210122

Closing date: 15 February 2021

UCT is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at <http://www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf> . For this post we seek particularly to attract black (i.e. African, Coloured and Indian) South Africans and persons with disabilities.

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.