



## SCIENTIFIC OFFICER (12 month contract)

Division of Medical Virology  
Department of Pathology  
Faculty of Health Sciences

The mucosal immunology laboratory in the Division of Medical Virology, Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine at the University of Cape Town, headed by Associate Professor Jo-Ann Passmore, focuses on reproductive health and infectious diseases that pose a huge disease threat to South Africa, including but not restricted to HIV and HPV. This exciting research group has recently expanded their mandate to include a focus on bacterial vaginosis (BV) as a major driver of HIV risk in South Africa. As such, we are in the process of establishing an anaerobe unit in the laboratory for culture and characterization of anaerobic bacterial species that comprise BV.

We invite applications from suitably qualified candidates for the above-mentioned position in the Research group directed by Associate Professor Passmore. The successful candidate will be part of an active research team involved in studies related to reproductive health and disease, including HIV, in addition to management of the anaerobe facility.

### Requirements:

- Must have a PhD degree in Microbiology, or related discipline, with experience in anaerobic bacterial culture and sequencing techniques.
- 3 years' experience in a research laboratory working with biological samples
- Computer Literacy

### Advantages include:

- Ability to develop and upgrade current laboratory facility for capacity building
- Experience in Data Analysis & Data management
- Ability to work autonomously, under pressure, and to meet deadlines
- Ability to collaborate and work well in a team
- Support and mentoring skills for development & training of Junior Researchers
- Experience in isolation and characterization of Lactobacillus and other common bacterial species from the vaginal microbiota a major advantage
- Experience in working with live biotherapeutic and probiotic species an advantage
- Experience and working knowledge of health and safety training requirements for clinical research
- Laboratory management experience an advantage

### Responsibilities:

- Development and management of new anaerobic technology to support ongoing and new research projects
- Lab management, including overseeing equipment maintenance, health and safety procedures, and day to day running of the laboratory
- Supervision of students in laboratory techniques
- Data analysis and data management
- Drafting of SOP's

The 2018 annual cost of employment, is between R 300 495.00 to R 353 522.00.

**To apply**, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms [Kathryn.Norman@uct.ac.za](mailto:Kathryn.Norman@uct.ac.za) ; cc Associate Professor Jo-Ann Passmore at [Jo-Ann.Passmore@uct.ac.za](mailto:Jo-Ann.Passmore@uct.ac.za)

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Cover letter, and
- 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. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and may be required to undergo a competency test.

**Telephone:** 021 406 6089

**Website:** [www.hr.uct.ac.za](http://www.hr.uct.ac.za)

**Reference number:** E80127

**Closing date:** 15 February 2018

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UCT reserves the right not to appoint.