



# LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST

(12 month contract)

**Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine**

**Faculty of Health Sciences**

The Wellcome Centre for Infectious Diseases Research in Africa (CIDRI-Africa) is based at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine (IDM) in the Faculty of Health Sciences of UCT. The Centre conducts cutting-edge research on the epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases that severely affect communities in South Africa, predominantly HIV and tuberculosis. CIDRI-Africa is a multidisciplinary infectious disease research center, committed to the pursuit of excellence and impact in its research.

We seek to appoint a highly motivated Laboratory Technologist to provide laboratory support for our studies. This full-time 12 month fixed term (T1) contract position will be **based within the CIDRI-Africa laboratory at the IDM (60%) and at our research site in Khayelitsha (40%)**. The work at IDM will mainly be on the Wellcome project investigating the role of MAIT cells in resistance to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection in healthcare workers with sustained occupational exposure. The work at the research site in Khayelitsha will be to provide back-up and support for the on-site Laboratory technologist for the HVTN702 and 705 trials which are multi-site clinical trials that evaluate the safety and efficacy of novel candidate vaccines for preventing HIV-1 infection in adults.

## Minimum requirements

- B. Tech or National Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology **AND** Registration with HPCSA
- At least 1 year of experience working in sterile Biosafety level 2 and/or level 3 laboratory conditions.
- Willingness to work with samples from patients infected with *M. tuberculosis* and HIV.
- Excellent communication/interpersonal/administrative/organizational skills, and be detail-orientated
- Must be a South African, permanent resident or in possession of a valid work permit.

## Advantageous

- Master's degree in Health Sciences (Immunology/Microbiology/Haematology/Virology)
- Experience in *Mtb* culture techniques and techniques listed below;
- Clinical laboratory research experience and Good Clinical Laboratory Practice certification.

## Responsibilities

- Processing of blood and other specimens according to protocol and documenting results, which will include:
  - The separation of serum and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC);
  - The separation of cells from other body fluids (e.g. Bronchoalveolar lavage cells);
  - Cryo-preservation of separated cells;
  - Setting up cell cultures for *in vitro* stimulation;
  - ELISA (including Quantiferon), Luminex assays and Flow cytometry assays
- To culture and process clinical research material/samples in a BSL 2 and 3 laboratory.
- Manage laboratory documentation and audit trails for sample processing, storage and shipping to other sites
- Performing general laboratory and equipment maintenance including arrangement for calibrations per SOP
- Ensure adherence to Health and Safety procedures
- Maintain IQC and EQC programs
- Conduct on-site laboratory procedures (HIV and other rapid tests, urinalysis, microscopy, etc.)
- Liaise with study staff, referral lab and sponsors when resolving queries.
- Formal duties will not exceed 37.5 hours per week, but flexible hours will be required.
- Flexibility to perform new duties in the laboratory as required

The 2018 annual cost of employment is between R189 629 to R353 522, depending on experience.

Informal inquiries to: Dr Amy Ward ([amyward41@gmail.com](mailto:amyward41@gmail.com)) or Dr Muki Shey ([muki.shey@uct.ac.za](mailto:muki.shey@uct.ac.za))

Effective start date: For appointment as soon as possible or by 01 January 2019.

**To apply**, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Erika Morey at [erika.morey@uct.ac.za](mailto:erika.morey@uct.ac.za):

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae (CV), and **Email and telephone details of at least two (2) contactable referees**

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 for interviews and may be required to undergo an assessment.

**Reference number:** E81030

**Closing date:** 07 November 2018

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>

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.