

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Position	Research Officer
Level/Classification	HEW0606
Reports to	Foundation Chair in Molecular Therapy
Unit	Personalised Medicine Centre
Directorate	Research & Innovation, Health Future Institute
Positions Supervised	N/A

Position Purpose

The Research Officer provides research and technical expertise to support the delivery of the Centre's research programs, including planning and conducting research activities, contributing to experimental design, and supporting the preparation of research outputs.

The purpose of this position is to Contribute to PMC's research program focusing particularly on nucleic acid drug development and the evaluation of their efficacies in cultured cells (in vitro) and animal models (in vivo). In particular, the position will require significant expertise in the use of induced pluripotent stems cells in drug screening to meet the requirements of specific research studies.

About Murdoch University

Murdoch University is a young and dynamic university with a foundational commitment to the environment, social justice and inclusion, and making education accessible to more people. Founded as Western Australia's second university in 1974, today, Murdoch has more than 21,000 students and 1,700 staff across campuses in Perth, Singapore and Dubai. With more than 90,000 Alumni, Murdoch graduates can be found all over the world, making a positive difference.

Our Strategy – Ngala Kwop Bididi. Building a brighter future, together – guides the University's direction and reaffirms our shared purpose to change lives and society for the better through accessible education and research.

The Strategy is focused on three key themes:

- Sustainability: Be a leading university in education, teaching and translational research in sustainability.
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Build a welcoming, diverse and inclusive community.

- First Nations: Become the University of first choice for First Nations peoples.

Murdoch is also committed to building engagement with our local community, State, nation, and global society with a track-record in creating strong partnerships with business, government and industry.

About the Work Area

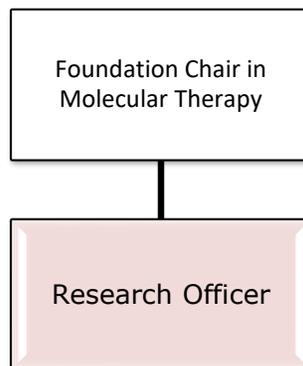
The Personalised Medicine Centre, formally the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Innovative Therapeutics, is a collaborative research centre between Murdoch University and the Perron Institute, where cutting-edge laboratory research and clinical expertise converge. Our team of researchers and health professionals, drawn from diverse fields, is united in a shared commitment to advancing personalised medicine - the development of innovative treatments tailored to addressing the specific needs of individual patients, needs that are largely determined by a person's unique genetic makeup and lifestyle.

Our research spans a broad spectrum of critical healthcare challenges. Our diverse research teams are advancing work in areas such as genetic therapies, genomics, motor neurone disease, sepsis, immunogenomics and drug hypersensitivity, cognitive health, muscular dystrophy, and neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's disease, myositis, and multiple sclerosis.

To learn more about our Centre's research groups visit

<https://www.murdoch.edu.au/research/hfi/our-centres/personalised-medicine-centre>

Reporting Relationships



Key Responsibilities/Duties

1. Assist the Project Leads as needed, in the design and conduct of experiments using induced pluripotent stems cells and/or differentiated cells in drug screening.
2. Co-ordinate research experiments, data analysis and interpretation and other activities.
3. Design and conduct experiments using tissue culture, molecular biology, and immunochemistry.

4. Perform research into the manipulation of transcript splicing to modify gene expression for the desired outcomes, using antisense oligomer-based techniques and apply to normal and patients' cells in vitro and in vivo animal models.
5. Regularly update the research progress to research leaders and participate in research meetings.
6. Analyse data and assist with the preparation of research papers for scholarly journals.
7. Comply with the requirements of OHS for the laboratory, including compliance with legislative authorities such as OGTR (Office of the Gene Technology Regulator) and AQIS (Australian Quarantine Inspection Service), during handling, disposal and storage of biologicals and chemicals.
8. Comply with systems and processes that are in place for the appropriate storage, handling and disposal of biohazard materials, chemicals and reagents.
9. Undertake other duties as determined by the Centre.

Selection Criteria

Essential

1. Completion of a degree with Honours qualification and/or with subsequent combination of relevant work experience.
2. Demonstrated experience in the use of induced pluripotent stems cells and cellular differentiation processes.
3. Experience to work under broad direction, exercise initiative in undertaking responsibilities and work effectively as a team member.
4. Demonstrated ability to work independently and meet deadlines whilst remaining flexible in a dynamic environment.
5. Demonstrated ability and commitment to successfully assist with the supervision of honours, postgraduate and HDR students in new techniques and laboratory procedures.
6. Demonstrated high levels of written and oral communication skills in English.

Work Requirements

1. Australian permanent residency or possession of a valid visa with work entitlement in Australia.
2. Ability to work outside of normal office hours when required.

General Obligations

While at work, an employee must:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety and ensure that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons;
- report incidents, injuries and hazards;
- comply with any reasonable instruction that is given by Murdoch University; and
- comply with Murdoch University policies and procedures.

Guiding Principles and Values/Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

Our Values

- Authenticity
- Integrity
- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Openness

Our Principles

- Act with justice, respect and responsible care.
- Be collegiate and respectful of other points of view.
- Protect academic freedom.
- Be agile, flexible and resilient.
- Make decisions at the most appropriate level.
- Be transparent in decision-making and with information.
- Adopt common approaches to common tasks.
- Be careful stewards of our resources.

All staff will comply with the University's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and demonstrate a commitment to its Equity, Diversity and Safety principles and the general capabilities of personal effectiveness, working collaboratively and demonstrating a focus on results.

All Staff complete a Development Review Annually. A Commencing Development Review should be completed within 3 months of commencement.

We acknowledge that Murdoch University is situated on the lands of the Whadjuk and Binjareb Noongar people. We pay our respects to their enduring and dynamic culture and the leadership of Noongar elders past and present. The boodjar (country) on which Murdoch University is located has, for thousands of years, been a place of learning. We at Murdoch University are proud to continue this long tradition.