



Job Title: Research Technician

Job Family: Research

Job Code: 000319 & 001593

Grade: 13 & 14

Department: All Research Departments

GENERAL SUMMARY/ OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The Kwon Laboratory at the Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston (www.kwonlab.org) has an opening for a highly motivated Research Technician to study the immunopathogenesis of HIV infection and the human microbiome at mucosal tissue sites in the female genital tract. The overall goal is to conduct translational research to help reduce the spread of HIV, particularly among young women in sub-Saharan Africa. The person hired will work under the supervision of Dr. Doug Kwon, Dr. Josh Gammon, and Dr. Ben Read conducting patient-oriented translational research involving cutting-edge technologies. The position will primarily involve single cell and bulk RNA sequencing, nucleic acid extraction, and PCR, in addition to handling and processing of tissue and blood samples, immunologic assays, and utilizing novel assays to study mucosal immune responses to HIV and mucosal bacteria.

This is a great opportunity for someone interested in pursuing a career in scientific research or medicine while working in a supportive, highly collaborative, and energetic environment. The lab studies samples from ongoing clinical cohorts based in the US and South Africa examining risk of HIV, HIV pathogenesis, and other adverse reproductive outcomes. State-of-the-art facilities are available within an exceptionally energetic research setting.

The Kwon lab is committed to providing a diverse, inclusive, and supportive environment; appropriately qualified applicants from all backgrounds will be considered.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Perform experiments analyzing microbial and tissue samples from human subjects, assessing the impact of the microbiome and HIV infection on the cervicovaginal mucosa.
- Perform and assist with experiments involving next generation sequencing, molecular biology, immunologic assays, microscopy, and flow cytometry.
- Analyze data and present findings to others.
- Maintain detailed documentation of the experimental work.
- Ensure quality control of equipment, reagents and cellular components.
- Read and interpret current literature to aid in experimental design.
- Work closely within the group and with outside collaborators.
- Maintain close communications with supervisors regarding progress.

SKILLS/ABILITIES/COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:

- Highly motivated and independent, with the ability to work in a dynamic team environment
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Laboratory experience required
- Computer experience including expertise with Microsoft Office programs is essential
- Experience with anaerobic microbiology is preferred
- Experience with immunology and mouse work preferred
- Experience with R or python is preferred
- Flexibility to occasionally work evenings and weekends if needed

EDUCATION:

Bachelor's degree in biology, microbiology, computational biology, biological engineering, ecology, or similar required.

EXPERIENCE:

New graduates with some lab experience (via course work, internships, etc.) will be considered for the Research Technician I position outlined above.

TO APPLY

Please send your resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to Dr. Doug Kwon (dkwon@mgh.harvard.edu).