



Job Title: Research Technologist – Microbiome Reserach 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 Technologist to join our team studying the immunopathogenesis of HIV infection and the human microbiome at mucosal tissue sites, including the female reproductive tract and gastrointestinal tract. The overall goal is to conduct human 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. Kwon conducting patient-oriented translational research involving cutting-edge technologies. The position will involve handling and processing of tissue and blood samples, performance of anaerobic bacteriology, immunologic assays, nucleic acid extractions, PCR, next generation sequencing, and utilizing novel assays to study mucosal immune responses to HIV and mucosal bacteria. Strong preference for personnel with experience performing bacterial 16S rRNA gene sequencing. The position will also involve responsibilities for general lab organization and support of lab logistics.

This is a great opportunity for someone interested in pursuing a long term career in scientific research while working in a supportive, highly collaborative, and energetic environment. The lab studies samples from ongoing clinical cohorts based in the US and sub-Saharan Africa examining risk of HIV, HIV pathogenesis, and other diseases that particularly impact low and middle income countries (LMICs). 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 HIV infection and microbiome on health
- Perform and assist with experiments involving bacteriology, immunologic assays, microscopy, flow cytometry and molecular biology
- Analyze data and present findings to others
- Maintain detailed documentation of the experimental work
- Ensure quality control of equipment, reagents and cellular components

- Work closely within the group and with outside collaborators
- Maintain close communications with PI regarding progress
- Help support lab organization and logistics

SKILLS/ABILITIES/COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:

- Highly motivated and independent, with the ability to work in a dynamic team environment, seeking a long term position
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Experience with bacterial 16S rRNA gene sequencing strongly preferred
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Laboratory experience required
- Flexibility to occasionally work evenings or weekends
- Experience with next generation sequencing, cell culture strongly preferred
- Computer experience including expertise with Microsoft Office programs is essential
- Experience with R is preferred but not essential

EDUCATION:

Bachelor's degree required, Master's degree preferred.

EXPERIENCE:

4+ years work in a scientific laboratory required.

TO APPLY

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