

 **NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND**

# JOB DESCRIPTION

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| **1. JOB DETAILS**  |
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| Job Holder |  |
| Job Title | Research Scientist : Cellular Therapy NPBTCSS120 |
| Immediate Senior Officer | Senior Research Scientist : Cellular Therapy , SNBTS |
| Division | NSS Blood Tissues and Cells |
| Location | Research, Development and Innovation (RDI), 21 Ellen’s Glen Road, Edinburgh EH17 7QT |
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| **2. JOB PURPOSE** |
| To coordinate and undertake planned research and development leading to novel or improved cellular therapies. To provide expertise in cell culture; cell characterization and appropriate molecular biology techniques. Work collaboratively with other members of the SNBTS cellular therapeutics and wider SNBTS groups involved in cellular therapeutics. Participate in large collaborative cellular therapy studies with the wider academic and biotechnology communities. |
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| **3. DIMENSIONS** |
| Plays a key role in RDI programmes which aim to deliver novel or improved cellular therapies. Implements SNBTS and research group policy in own and collaborative project areas within Cell Therapy Group and contributes to policy for that group. Responsible for ordering lab consumables up to a value of £5k per year using PECOS system.Responsible for contributing to funding applications to external bodies for individual or collaborative projects, and participates in assigning funds from central funds and grant awarding bodies for such projects.Responsible for text and data entry associated with personal project execution.  |
| **4. ORGANISATION CHART** |
| Cellular Therapeutics Theme Group HeadCellular Production theme Group HeadSenior Research Scientist Cellular TherapeuticsAssociate Director  **RDI** |
| Research ScientistCellular Therapeutics |
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| **5. ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT** |
| The core purpose of the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service is to meet the transfusion needs of patients in Scotland. In support of this, the SNBTS RDI Directorate is committed to a programme that will enhance the service provided to NHSScotland in both clinical and operational areas. SNBTS undertakes research and development which is designed to support the strategic and operational priorities of the organisation, achieve high quality and impact and add value to broader NHS and Governmental objectives. SNBTS research is organised into four research themed areas, Tissue and Cellular Therapies; Tissues and Cellular therapies – Production (SCRM); Clinical Transfusion; Microbiology and Components). RDI also interfaces with both with the main research intensive Scottish Universities in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee and with partner organisations such as the National CJD Surveillance Unit. SNBTS RDI also works in partnership with other research-active Divisions of NSS, wider NHS Scotland and with other UK Blood Services in order to ensure clinical relevance and efficient use of resources. |
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| **6. KEY RESULT AREAS** |
| 1. To play a key role in the establishment of cellular identity testing for cellular therapy e.g. phenotyping, karyotyping and assessing cytokine and chemokine production by cellular therapy products.
2. To contribute to research programmes to study the use of pluripotent or reprogrammed cells as sources of somatic cells for cellular therapy (e.g. RBC, MSC, beta-cell).
3. To provide general cellular biology expertise to colleagues in the SNBTS Cellular Therapeutics Group and to SNBTS RDI generally, in order to standardise techniques across RDI.
4. To liaise with external groups including academic and clinical colleagues to assist in reducing research protocols to clinical practice. This includes liaising between internal cellular therapeutics research and cellular therapeutics production theme groups.
5. Contribute to funding applications to external bodies for R&D project support, and contribute to reports to those bodies as required
6. To maintain current awareness of the scientific literature in the field of work and to participate in collaborations with colleagues working in related fields.
7. Assess and provide reviews of the published or presented work of others as required to assist in formulating R&D initiatives.
8. To ensure complete and up to date records are kept of work performance and to provide reports on progress of work on request. From such data to produce reports suitable for presentation at appropriate scientific meetings and publication in scientific journals.
9. To provide training to other staff or students in relevant areas.
10. To participate in collaborative meetings on regulatory affairs regarding research and clinical use of cellular therapeutics, and to assist in preparation and submission of protocols to appropriate regulatory bodies.
11. To observe and obey the requirements of legislation and acts affecting employment within the laboratory.
12. To observe NSS policy on health and safety at work, welfare, grievance, counselling and disciplinary procedures.
13. To undertake other appropriate duties as may be required from time to time by the Cellular Therapeutics Research Group Leader, or through him/her by the Associate Director of RDI, SNBTS.
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| **7. ASSIGNMENT AND REVIEW OF WORK** |
| The strategic direction of work will be set by the Associate Director RDI and Senior Research Scientist. Formal review on an annual basis, or more frequently if required. The postholder has the autonomy to make day to day decisions on the project.The post holder has responsibility for organising own research over the life of each project in order to meet deadlines and KPIs.The poster holder is expected to collaborate with outside groups, on different projects, utilising SNBTS’ and the collaborators expertise to complement each other and adjust strategies to achieve the best results between groups. There are existing collaborations with academic groups in Glasgow and Edinburgh. These allow for a pooling of resources and also allow planning of projects for post-graduate students. Tries out new approaches to cellular therapy. Seek ways to broaden the scope of such therapies to be useful in treating other diseases. Understanding the fundamental biology of cellular therapeutic products and how these can be used to define the identity and function of cellular therapeutics. |
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| **8. COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS** |
| * Communicate locally with Senior Research Scientist, Cell Therapy Group Leaders, Associate Director of RDI, Clinical Scientists, Clinical Research Fellows and Postgraduate Research Assistants within the SNBTS Cell Therapy Group, wider RDI and external collaborators.
* Participate in meetings with various local external academic and clinical collaborators for specific projects within the Cell Therapy Group
* Participate in meetings of the SNBTS RDI department at national level.
* Attend relevant Scottish and UK meetings of various cell therapy science groupings and communicate with relevant individuals and groups within UK transfusion and cell therapy science.
* Establish links and foster communication and collaborations with local, national and international academic and clinical researchers with relevant R&D interests.
* Interact with University of Edinburgh/Roslin Cells collaborators at SCRM, attend general business meetings for that laboratory and participate in shared academic interests with this University group. Ensure local compliance with policies and safe working procedures.
* Provide supervision and review for visiting researchers, including students, within the Cell Therapy Group as required.
* Provide reports and summaries of own and group’s work as required by SNBTS or other organisations.
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| **9. MOST CHALLENGING PART OF THE JOB**  |
| Project management and prioritisation of work for a number of different cellular therapies in different stages of development, and using different scientific research approaches. |
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| **10. Systems** |
| The post holder will be expected to be proficient in the use of spreadsheets and databases for the collation, storage, manipulation and presentation of experimental data from a variety of internal and external information sources, including analysis of data generated by RDI staffResponsible for compilation, analysis and presentation of personal and collaborative data and statistics in different contexts.Computing for recording/analysing results, report and presentation writing including graphics, communications, on-line database/journal searching. |
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| **11. WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND EFFORT** |
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| **Physical Effort** |
| When working with cellular therapy products, there is a frequent requirement for sitting or standing in a restricted position for a substantial proportion of the working time, at a microscope or performing cell culture in sterile conditions. Also, there is a frequent requirement for light physical effort for several short periods during a shift. There is an occasional requirement to exert light physical effort for several long periods during a shift.At times, long periods of time working with a computer and monitor may be required. |
| Mental Effort |
| Intense concentration is required when reading or listening to, and attempting to understand, new and complex scientific theories and views related to the work we undertake. When devising new approaches to problems which are faced in the course of our work. In developing and performing intricate assays. Analysing experimental results.Uses extensive range of complex equipment associated with practicing and managing laboratory-based biomedical R&D, including: a range of accurate liquid measurement and dispensing equipment, accurate weighing equipment, mixers, centrifuges, laminar flow cabinets and aseptic work procedures, microscopes, cameras, freezers and fridges, tissue culture incubators.Use of specialist cellular analysis equipment e.g. Flow Cytometer, Microscopy and imaging. |
| **Emotional Effort** |
| Exposure to distressing or emotional circumstances is rare  |
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| **12. ENVIRONMENTAL / WORKING CONDITIONS & MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT** |
| Exposure to radioactive material and dangerous/noxious chemicals. Working in biohazard class II containment cultivating primary human cells or cell lines which have the potential to contain agents infectious to humans. |
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| **13. QUALIFICATIONS AND/OR EXPERIENCE SPECIFIED FOR THE POST** |
| * An Honours degree in an appropriate biological science.
* Post graduate research qualification together with post-graduate experience in biomedical research, gained over several years in an academic or healthcare-related setting.
* Extensive cell culture experience
* Experience of collaboration with external scientific, clinical and commercial individuals and groups.
* Experience of review and presentation of work at scientific meetings and publication in scientific journals.
* Experience of analysing complex data e.g. from multicolour flow cytometry
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| **14. JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT** |
| A separate job description will need to be signed off by each jobholder to whom the job description applies. |
| Job Holder’s Signature |  | Date |  |  |
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| Head of Department |  |  |  |  |
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| Signature |  | Date |  |  |
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| Title |  |  |
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| HR Department will check job description format and content and then send the job description to the AfC Team |
| HR Representative’s Signature |  |  |
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| Date Job Description Agreed: |  |  |
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