



Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Research Animal Technician/Research Assistant
LOCATION: Gilles Plains, South Australia
REPORTS TO: General Manager
DEPARTMENT: Preclinical, Imaging and Research Laboratories (PIRL)

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION

The Research Animal Technician/Research Assistant is responsible for oversight and care, maintenance, husbandry and wellbeing of research animals. Assisting the Research Supervisor and Preclinical Studies Manager with the daily operation of specific Preclinical studies to a high standard.

Reporting to the General Manager, the position will also work closely with Director and other members of PIRL. They may also work with other Themes to ensure all research activities can be effectively implemented to a high standard and interact with a range of external stakeholders including our partners, external users and any relevant regulatory authorities.

There are no direct reports for this role.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Care of animals and their facilities in accordance with the Australian Code of Practice, for the Care and Use of Animals for scientific purposes.
2. Record and maintain accurate procedural and animal treatment and research data.
3. Adhere to research protocols, timelines and standard operating procedures.
4. High standard in the care and maintenance of research animals and facilities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The specific duties include:

- Performing animal husbandry procedures.
- Contributing to maintaining high standard of animal care by feeding, watering and observing research animals.
- Managing a small animal unit within the overall research capabilities, including pricing structures and invoicing.
- Contributing to establishment of research protocols.
- Perform day to day experimentation associated with research projects and supervise other staff involved in experimental, analytical, data handling, quality assurance and animal handling aspects of the projects.
- Assisting with cleaning, maintenance and stocking of cages, pens and other animal accommodation.
- Assisting in the disposal of animal bedding and carcasses.
- Adhering to correct protocols and standard operating procedures in relation to animal restraint, anaesthesia, injection, immunisation, and blood collection.



- Recording accurate data regarding the performance of quality assurance protocols, animal procedures and collection of animal products.
- Assisting with the animal transportation as required.
- Implementing efficient work programs relating to animal maintenance and handling procedures.
- Cleaning and maintaining animal handling equipment and facilities including research theatres.
- Carrying out pre- and post-operative monitoring of animals as specified
- Preparing animals for surgery including maintenance of pre-op feeding and watering charts.
- Administering drugs and medications to animals under Veterinary supervision.
- Support quality assurance activities by contributing to audits, spot check, coordination of QA programs, particularly in relation to GLP and ISO: 9001 (2015) accreditation programmes.
- Assisting with other activities at PIRL as required.
- Participate in special projects to continuously improve processes, tools, systems and organisation.
- Take reasonable care to protect own health, safety and welfare at work and avoid affecting the health and safety of any other person at work.
- Participate in the implementation of the Institute's Work, Health and Safety Management System and related laws, regulations and guidelines.
- Ensure that duties are performed in keeping with the principles outlined in SAHMRI's Vision, Mission and Values and the **Code of Conduct Policy**.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Some out of hours work is required, including weekends and public holidays
- Regular travel in the metropolitan area
- Manual handling of animals and Q Fever vaccination is required.
- This position may require a pre-employment medical examination to determine suitability for the physical requirements of the role.



Person Specification

QUALIFICATIONS

- Science degree / Animal Care / Veterinary Nursing Diploma or Degree in Animal/Science field or equivalent

EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Experience in a research environment, particularly in relation to research animal requirements.
- Current knowledge of the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes.
- Experience in quality assurance principles particularly GLP and ISO requirements.
- Possess good interpersonal skills and have a demonstrated capacity to work cooperatively in a team environment.
- Ability to work with limited supervision.
- Working knowledge of aseptic technique and of the need to adhere to Standard Operating Procedures.
- Ability to prioritise and adhere to strict timelines.
- Meticulous documentation of information either written or electronic databases.
- Able to demonstrate the following Values:
 - Innovation – demonstrate innovation and creativity in a framework of excellence and accountability
 - Collaboration – work in collaboration with our partners and within the institute
 - Building research capacity – nurture and develop the next generation of research leaders
 - Translation – translate our research into solutions for everyday problems
 - Integrity – demonstrate integrity and ethical conduct
- Support SAHMRI's commitment to reconciliation and acknowledge the importance of working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
- Able to demonstrate the following SAHMRI Values and Culture:
 - **Excellence** – Bold, Driven, Dynamic
 - **Innovation** – Persistent and Focused
 - **Courage** – Collaborative and Enabling
 - **Integrity** – Embrace Diversity, Demand Equity
 - **Teamwork** – Friendly, Fast, Flexible, Fun

LICENCES

- Current Driver's Licence