



Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Diagnostic Scientist
LOCATION: Preclinical Imagine & research Laboratories (PIRL, Gilles Plains)
REPORTS TO: Laboratory Manager, ComPath
DEPARTMENT: ComPath

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION

Provide high quality, cost effective screening and diagnostic service for the detection of murine pathogens in research animal tissue and other biological materials submitted for analysis. The role is also responsible for:

- The development and validation of new molecular diagnostic tests in collaboration with other parties;
- Performing routine bacteriology and sample collection on live animal submissions;
- Coordinating the pathology laboratory housekeeping;
- Participating in quality management activities; and
- Providing general support to the Laboratory Manager, ComPath.

Reporting to the Laboratory Manager, ComPath, the position will also work closely with the Director, PIRL – Gilles Plains, Manager, PIRL – Gilles Plains and other staff at SAHMRI. The role will also interact with a range of external stakeholders including researchers, clients and regulators.

There are no direct reports for this role.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The specific duties include:

- Provide cost effective, timely and accurate diagnostic screening service for the detection of murine pathogens in cell cultures and other biological specimens by conducting a range of PCR, RT-PCR, EIA & IFA assays.
- Contribute to all activities of the Molecular Diagnostics and Serology sections of ComPath including managing workloads, liaising with clients and other groups, and maintaining adequate stocks of reagents and consumables required by the section.
- Contribute to the activities of the Pathology laboratory by performing necropsy, tissue and sample collection as required
- Contribute to the scientific and technical requirements of a Test Development Programme aimed at increasing the range and efficiency of tests offered by the section. This work will be conducted in collaboration with other groups.
- Become familiar with bacteriological techniques for organism identification and be able to perform such procedures.
- Contribute to the successful completion of research programs undertaken by the section by conducting assays and adhering to research protocols and associated standard operating procedures.
- Support the activities of the Quality Representative by conducting audits, spot checks, coordination of QA programs and other activities as required.



- Keep abreast of current developments in relevant animal research.
- 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 may be required.
- DCSI Employment Screening and Police Checks may be required.
- This position may require a pre-employment medical examination to determine suitability for the physical requirements of the role.



Person Specification

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science) or equivalent.

EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Experience in a diagnostic laboratory setting
- Knowledge and some experience of PCR and RT-PCR techniques
- Knowledge and some experience in serological techniques
- Knowledge and some experience in basic microbiological techniques
- Knowledge of laboratory practices and documentation
- Able to work under minimal supervision to agreed standards and guidelines
- Able to coordinate workload and undertake training of new staff as required
- Understanding of Work Safety and quality management practices and procedures
- Meticulous and methodical
- Excellent interpersonal skills; written and verbal communication skills and computer literacy
- Able to handle laboratory animals and aware of issues relating to the use of animals in research is desirable
- 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:
 - **Innovation** – Bold, Driven, Dynamic
 - **Excellence** – Persistent and Focused
 - **Courage** – Collaborative and Enabling
 - **Integrity** – Embrace Diversity, Demand Equity
 - **Teamwork** – Friendly, Fast, Flexible, Fun

LICENCES

- Current Driver's Licence