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| Last updated: | 04/07/2023 |

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| Post title: | **BRF Animal Technician** | | |
| School/Department: | Cancer Sciences / Biomedical Research Facility (BRF) | | |
| Faculty: | Medicine | | |
| Career Pathway: | Technical and Experimental (TAE) | Level: | 2a |
| \*ERE category: | n/a | | |
| Posts responsible to: | BRF Operations Manager, Level G BRF Deputy Manager | | |
| Posts responsible for: | N/A | | |
| Post base: | Non-Office-based | | |

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| Job purpose |
| To assist with providing high standards of animal husbandry and welfare for a variety of animal species  To work in-line with Home Office, Health and Safety and local rules and policies.  To maintain high standards of housekeeping and biosecurity. |

| Key accountabilities/primary responsibilities | | % Time |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Primarily responsible for assisting with animal husbandry and welfare of rodents including breeding of GA and wildtype animals, cleaning out, and feeding and watering in accordance with the Animal’s Scientific Procedures Act 1986 (ASPA) and Codes of Practice. To adopt a Culture of Care in-line with University policy and promote use of the 3 “R” s (reduction/refinement and replacement) When required to assist with husbandry and welfare of other animal species including rabbits and xenopus. | 70% |
|  | Use industrial equipment for the cleaning and sterilization of animal caging and supplies. Correct preparation of animal caging and equipment including provision of appropriate environmental enrichment.  Assisting with general housekeeping and maintaining high standards of biosecurity within all areas of the BRF. Use correct disinfectants and sterilization techniques appropriate to the task in hand.  Assists with waste management and disposal | 20% |
|  | Accurate and timely record keeping using both paper and data-base management system. Records include environmental, health, breeding and allocation of animals to researchers. | 5% |
|  | Any other duties as allocated by the line manager following consultation with the post holder. | 5 % |

| Internal and external relationships |
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| BRF Operations Manager and Deputy  Senior Technician/NACWO  PCU Manager and Technical staff  Named Veterinary Surgeon  BRF Technical Staff  Academic staff and research students  Maintenance contractors |

| Special Requirements |
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| * Manual handling. * Exposure to animal allergens requiring occupational health surveillance including periodic lung function testing. Exposure to animal allergens can cause occupational asthma and face fitted respiratory protective equipment must be worn as part of daily routine. * Working with GM Containment Level 1 and 2 pathogens. * Understand the security and ethical implications connected with animal research. |

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

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| Criteria | Essential | Desirable | How to be assessed |
| Qualifications, knowledge and experience | 5 GCSEs or equivalent to include Maths, English and a Science subject. | Able to demonstrate a sufficient knowledge of work systems, equipment processes and standard IT packages.  Ability to operate and maintain relevant basic machinery.  Ability to make effective use of standard computer systems.  Experience of data input and record keeping. | Application/interview |
| Planning and organising | Once trained be expected to organise and carry out daily routines with minimal supervision. |  |  |
| Problem solving and initiative | Initially recognise problems and report to line manager. With experience, solve simple problems with minimal assistance. |  |  |
| Management and teamwork | Must be able to be flexible and work well as part of a team or individually.  Ability to work to the standard required by the Home Office  Feedback welfare issues to NACWO and line managers |  |  |
| Communicating and influencing | Must have good communication skills and be able communicate on a day-to-day basis with technical staff and academic users of the department.  Work in-line with UOS expected behaviours and promote collegiality amongst the team |  |  |
| Other skills and behaviours | Ability to carry out manual handling including moving bulky items up to 12.5Kg and work standing most of the time. |  |  |
| Special requirements | Must enrol in the Occupational health LAA monitoring scheme which requires periodic heath questionnaire, face fit test and lung function testing.  If necessary, must be willing to have vaccination against hepatitis B  Must understand and accept the need for the use of animals in medical research. Understands the security and ethical implications connected with animal research and acceptance of the special responsibilities ensuing.  Must be willing to undergo Animal Rights Screening.  Must be prepared to wear respiratory protection equipment (RPE) and personal protective equipment (PPE) whilst carrying out most tasks and adhere to health and safety requirements.  Willingness to undertake Health and Safety training specific to role. | Ability to travel |  |

**JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS**

**Is this an office-based post?**

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| Yes | If this post is an office-based job with routine office hazards (eg: use of VDU), no further information needs to be supplied. Do not complete the section below. |
| No | If this post is not office-based or has some hazards other than routine office (eg: more than use of VDU) please complete the analysis below.  Hiring managers are asked to complete this section as accurately as possible to ensure the safety of the post-holder. |

## - HR will send a full PEHQ to all applicants for this position. Please note, if full health clearance is required for a role, this will apply to all individuals, including existing members of staff.

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| **ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES** | **Occasionally**  (<30% of time) | **Frequently**  (30-60% of time) | **Constantly**  (> 60% of time) |
| Outside work |  |  |  |
| Extremes of temperature (eg: fridge/ furnace) |  |  |  |
| ## Potential for exposure to body fluids |  |  |  |
| ## Noise (greater than 80 dba - 8 hrs twa) |  |  |  |
| ## Exposure to hazardous substances (eg: solvents, liquids, dust, fumes, biohazards). Specify below: |  |  | √ |
| Frequent hand washing |  | √ |  |
| Ionising radiation |  |  |  |
| **EQUIPMENT/TOOLS/MACHINES USED** | | | |
| ## Food handling |  |  |  |
| ## Driving university vehicles(eg: car/van/LGV/PCV) |  |  |  |
| ## Use of latex gloves (prohibited unless specific clinical necessity) |  |  |  |
| ## Vibrating tools (eg: strimmers, hammer drill, lawnmowers) |  |  |  |
| **PHYSICAL ABILITIES** | | | |
| Load manual handling |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive crouching/kneeling/stooping |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive pulling/pushing |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive lifting |  | √ |  |
| Standing for prolonged periods |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive climbing (ie: steps, stools, ladders, stairs) | √ |  |  |
| Fine motor grips (eg: pipetting) |  |  |  |
| Gross motor grips |  |  |  |
| Repetitive reaching below shoulder height |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive reaching at shoulder height |  | √ |  |
| Repetitive reaching above shoulder height |  | √ |  |
| **PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES** | | | |
| Face to face contact with public |  |  |  |
| Lone working |  |  |  |
| ## Shift work/night work/on call duties |  |  |  |