

Research Role Profile		
Job Title:	Postdoctoral Research Associate	
Responsible to:	Head of research group, or principal investigator	
Responsible for:	Not applicable	

## **Job Summary and Purpose:**

To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.

#### Main Responsibilities/Activities

Undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include laboratory experimentation (in vitro and/or in vivo), critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research.

Use initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop new research methods, and extend the research portfolio.

Analyse and interpret results of own research.

Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results and personal development.

Be up to date with latest reports in cardiovascular research and translate this knowledge into research activity.

Contribute to writing bids for research grants.

Self-motivated and able to work independently and as part of a team.

Supervise more junior research staff, if required.



## **Person Specification**

#### The post holder must have:

- PhD in biological sciences
- Strong expertise in cell, biochemical, and molecular biology
- Cardiovascular research experience
- Good communication skills (both written and verbal)
- Successful completion of research projects (published or submitted)
- Self-motivated, ability to work independently, able to work in a team
- Commitment to continuing personal and professional development
- · Ability to plan and prioritise workload

## **Relationships and Contacts**

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues in other institutions.

### **Special Requirements**

N/A

#### All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
  - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
  - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.



#### Addendum

This document provides additional information relating to both specific aspects of the post/faculty and any post specific person specification criteria. The information contained within this document should always be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Role Profile.

Job Title:

Postdoctoral Research Associate: Cellular Stress Respons in Heart Failure

### **Background Information/Relationships**

Applications are invited for the position of a BHF-funded Postdoctoral Research Associate in the laboratories of Dr Ioannis Smyrnias, University of Surrey, and Prof Nicolas Locker, Pirbright Institute. The post-holder will investigate the mechanisms underlying the cardiac stress responses during development of heart failure by utilizing a range of molecular and cell biological techniques *in vitro*, as well as genetically-engineered disease mouse model(s) *in vivo*.

In particular, the successful candidate will determine the relationships between mitochondrial function and cellular homeostasis under conditions of stress. Minimum qualifications are PhD in biological sciences with strong expertise in molecular, cellular, biochemical and cardiovascular biology. Prior experience in integrative cardiovascular physiology approach in mouse models, including *in vivo* echocardiography and pressure overload models is recommended.

Candidates should be highly motivated individuals with excellent communication skills, and able to plan and execute work independently. The fellow will have the opportunity to write and publish results of research studies in high impact score peer-reviewed journals and report research results at national and international conferences.

This a full-time, fixed-term post for 36 months and is funded by the British Heart Foundation. The successful candidate will be based at the widely recognised for world-class research Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences at the University of Surrey. The Faculty provides an excellent and highly multidisciplinary environment with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. Our beautiful campus in Guildford is located just 30 miles from London with convenient road and rail connections.

For more information and informal enquiries, please contact Dr Ioannis Smyrnias (i.smyrnias@surrey.ac.uk).

#### **Person Specification**

This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role. This is in addition to the criteria contained within the accompanying generic Role Profile.

	Essential/ Desirable
PhD in biological sciences	E
Strong expertise in cell, biochemical, and molecular biology	E



Cardiovascular research experience	Е
Knowledge and experience of integrative cardiovascular physiology approach in mouse models, including in vivo echocardiography and pressure overload models	D
Knowledge/experience of mitochondrial signalling	D
Knowledge and research experience in areas such as cellular stress response and/or cellular quality control	D
Home Office Personal Licence or equivalent	D
Good communication skills (both written and verbal)	E
Successful completion of research projects (published or submitted)	E
Self-motivated, ability to work independently, able to work in a team	Е
Commitment to continuing personal and professional development	Е
Ability to plan and prioritise workload	Е

#### **Key Responsibilities**

This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of any faculty/post specific responsibilities (5 to 8 maximum). This should be read in conjunction with those contained within the accompanying generic Role Profile.

- Develop and undertake high quality research, consistent with making a full active research contribution in line with Department/School/Faculty research strategy, and contribute to publications arising from this project
- Manage specific pieces of activity to an agreed timeline and within a specific budget, including literature reviews, data collection/analysis, and report writing
- Attend and, as appropriate, present research findings and papers at internal academic meetings and external professional conferences.
- Work as part of a team, collaborating and contributing to others' work in agreement with research integrity principles
- Facilitate collaboration and networking which engages and supports the activities of the group
- To be committed to your own personal career development with support from the PI
- Liaise with the supervisory team for the support and progress of the project
- Undertake any other reasonable duties that may be relevant to the role outline

#### N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.

