



St George's School of Health and Medical Sciences

City St George's, University of London

Infection and Immunity Research Institute

Research Assistant

Ref: 642-24-R

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post Title	Research Assistant
Grade	CSG 5
Contract type	Fixed term, 18 months
Responsible to	Professor Jodi Lindsay
Accountable to	Head of Department
Liaises with	Post-doctoral Fellow, PhD students, extended team, Institute and Professional Services staff.

Overall purpose of job

Applications are invited for a Research Assistant position at City St George's, University of London School of Health and Medical Sciences in the research team led by Professor Jodi Lindsay. The post is funded by an MRC Project grant to Professor Lindsay, in collaboration with Dr Adam Witney and Dr Alex McCarthy (Imperial College London). The project aims to investigate antimicrobial resistance (AMR) horizontal gene transfer between *Staphylococcus aureus* (including MRSA). Key goals will be to investigate a new region of the chromosome involved in gene transfer, identify the function of genes that control gene transfer and monitor their response to relevant environmental conditions. The project also funds a Post-doctoral Research Fellow who is currently being recruited. The project includes microbiology, genetic engineering, bioinformatics and tissue culture aspects.

We are a multidisciplinary team based in a clinical environment that collaborates widely. Further information about our research is here - <https://www.sgul.ac.uk/profiles/jodi-lindsay>, and the Institute of Infection and Immunity is here – [Infection and Immunity \(sgul.ac.uk\)](https://www.sgul.ac.uk/infection-immunity)



We are looking for an ambitious researcher who wishes to develop their career and make exciting translational discoveries in the AMR field. Mentoring, training, leadership and conference opportunities are offered in a supportive environment.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

1. Carry out high impact discovery research under the direction of the principal investigator and post-doctoral fellow.
1. Maintain an up-to-date knowledge of the field and state of the art
2. Design, perform, record, analyse and interpret research data
3. Prepare results for publication and presentation
4. Recognise that research is a team endeavour and engage willingly and effectively with external collaborators and other team members
5. Take a creative and professional approach to discussing and presenting data and hypotheses in lab meetings, and at conferences
6. Demonstrate a commitment to training and supervision of other members of staff and students working in the laboratory
7. Have a sound grasp of current health and safety regulations and practices and comply with these at all times
8. Carry out other duties within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the principal investigator
9. Actively follow university policies and procedures

It is expected that staff working at City St George's, University of London will be involved in our mentoring and tutoring activities, as appropriate, as well as supporting admissions, student recruitment and access and widening participation activities (MMI interviews, Open Days, school visits, clearing etc) where applicable.

You are also expected to undertake other activities appropriate to your grade as directed by your manager. This job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the post holder from time to time. St George's, University of London aims to provide opportunities for all its employees to develop the skills required to be successful in their role and to further develop their careers.

St George's, University of London, is committed to [the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\) principles](#).

Person Specification



Criteria	Description	Essential/ Desirable	How it is to be tested
Qualifications	<i>Good BSc degree in a relevant subject</i>	E	PQ, AF
Experience	<i>Experience in a research microbiology laboratory, ideally studying horizontal gene transfer in bacteria or AMR resistance mobility.</i>	E	SS1 , INT
Knowledge/ Skills	<i>Enthusiasm for multidisciplinary research, collaboration and learning</i>	E	SS2 , INT
	<i>Ability to organise and prioritise work, and with exceptional attention to detail</i>	E	SS3 , INT
	<i>Has research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the team's research strategy and goals</i>	D	AF
	<i>Experience in carrying out both independent and collaborative research</i>	D	AF
	<i>Contribution to research, including publications and/or presentations at conferences</i>	D	AF, INT
	<i>Excellent oral and written scientific skills, and ability to communicate complex information effectively</i>	E	AF, CV
	<i>Ability to patiently train and supervise new staff and students</i>	E	AF
	<i>Enthusiastic, eager to learn and self-motivated</i>	E	INT
Personal Attributes	<i>Able to work independently and drive the project forward</i>	E	SS4 , INT
	<i>Interest in Antimicrobial Resistance and/or translational research</i>	E	AF
	<i>Willingness and ability to be a collegial and team player</i>	E	INT

	<i>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality research</i>	E	INT
	<i>Committed to embedding practices which embrace diversity and promote equality of opportunity</i>	E	SS5 , INT
	<i>Committed to Continuing Professional Development (CPD)</i>	E	AF, INT

Key:

PQ=Prerequisite Qualification, AF=Application Form, CV=Curriculum Vitae,
 SS=Selection/Supporting Statements, ST=Selection Test/Presentation, INT=Interview

Note: Elements marked SS (Supporting Statements) in the Person Specification will be highlighted in Step 6 (Supporting Statements) on the online application form. Applicants' answers to Step 6 are an essential part of the selection process. Applicants should write individual supporting statements to demonstrate how their qualifications, experience, skills and training fit each of the elements highlighted in this section.

Applicants should address other elements of the Person Specification in Step 7 (Additional Information in the Application Form). Shortlisting will be based on applicants' responses to Step 6 and Step 7, and not on any attached CV. Therefore applicants should complete both sections as fully as possible on the online application form.

Updated December 2024



About us

St George's School of Health and Medical Sciences is dedicated to medical, biomedical and allied health education, training and research. Sharing a clinical environment with a major London teaching hospital in southwest London, our innovative approach to education results in well-rounded and highly skilled clinicians, scientists, and health and social care professionals.

St George's has a long and illustrious history of training healthcare professionals, dating back more than 270 years. We are well known for our innovative approach to medical education, being the first UK institution to launch a Graduate Entry Medicine Programme, a four-year fast-track medical degree course open to graduates in any discipline. Now part of City St George's, University of London, St George's was the number one university in the UK for Graduate Prospects (on track), according to the Complete University Guide 2024 and second for Graduate Prospects in the 2024 Times UK University Rankings.

Our internationally recognised research delivers cutting-edge scientific discovery through four specialist Research Institutes, directly helping patients through our close links to the clinical frontline and London's diverse community. St George's was ranked joint 8th in the UK by the Times Higher Education in their Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 Impact Scores. 36% of St George's research was assessed as 'world-leading' and 100% of our impact cases were judged to be either 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent.' Our Institutes focus on biomedical and scientific discovery, advancing the prevention and treatment of disease in the fields of population health, neuroscience, heart disease and infection - four of the greatest challenges to global health in the 21st century. Our values keep St George's striving to deliver its mission and demonstrate how we aspire to CARE for ourselves and others:

- Collaboration - We work as a community and engage external partners to deliver our mission.
- Ambition - We strive to achieve the best for ourselves and others, responding dynamically to new challenges.
- Respect - We are open-minded, listening to others and valuing different perspectives.
- Equity - We are inclusive, tackling inequity in all its forms.

The diversity of the people within our community at St George's is one of our strengths. We benefit hugely from the range of perspectives that come from the different backgrounds, opinions and beliefs of our staff and students and, in recognising that, we want to put our approach to diversity and inclusion firmly at our core.

More information about St George's School of Health and Medical Sciences can be found at www.sgul.ac.uk.

City, University of London and St George's, University of London completed a merger on 1 August 2024, creating a powerful multi-faculty, multi-site, institution. The combined university will become one of the largest suppliers of the health workforce in the capital, as well as one of the largest higher education destinations for London students. If you have any questions, you can email hrhelp@sgul.ac.uk with enquiries.



St George's School of Health and Medical Sciences currently offers a range of employee benefits:

Salary: £33,882 pa, (pro-rated for part-time staff). The salary range for **Grade 5** is £33,882 – £41,421 and appointment is usually made at the minimum point.

Hours: 35 hours per week which can be done flexibly in various ways or part time/job share can also be considered. Staff are expected to work the hours necessary to meet the requirements of the role and this will be dependent on the service area.

Annual leave: 30 days per annum. Plus eight UK public holidays and four days when City St George's, University of London is closed (usually between Christmas and New Year). Part time staff receive a pro rata entitlement.

Pension: Membership of competitive pension schemes with generous employer contribution and a range of extra benefits.

[Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London \(SAUL\)](#)

[London Pension Fund Authority \(LPFA\)](#)

[Universities Superannuation Scheme \(USS\)](#)

[National Health Services Pension Scheme \(NHSPS\) \(existing members only\)](#)

Flexible working Flexible working, including part-time or reduced hours of work, opportunities to work from home for many posts, compressed hours and local flexibility in agreeing start and finish times of work.

Travel City St George's, University of London offers an interest free season ticket loan and participates in the [Cycle to Work Scheme](#).

Gift Aid If you would like to make a tax-free donation to a charity of your choice, this can be arranged through our Payroll.

Sports and Leisure Facilities Rob Lowe Sports Centre, situated on the St George's Healthcare NHS Trust site offers exercise facilities that can be utilised by City St George's, University of London staff.

Within walking distance from St George's is Tooting Leisure Centre. Facilities include a swimming pool, gym and various exercise classes. The Centre offers staff an all-inclusive corporate membership. For more information please contact [Tooting Leisure Centre](#).



Shops and facilities There are a number of shops and facilities situated on site including ATMs, student bar and shop, Pret a Manger, M&S Simply Food store, library and multi-faith room.

Informal enquiries

Informal enquiries may be made via email to: jlindsay@sgul.ac.uk

Making an application

All applicants are encouraged to apply on line at <http://jobs.sgul.ac.uk> as our system is user friendly and the online application form is simple to complete. Please note that CVs only will not be accepted.

For any accessibility issues please contact hrhelp@sgul.ac.uk

Closing date: 15 January 2025

07 February 2025. As shortlisted candidates will be notified by email, it is imperative that you provide an email address that is accessed frequently.

Please quote reference **642-24-R**

We are delighted that you are interested in working at St George's School of Health and Medical Sciences. You will be notified of the outcome of your application by email. We aim to respond to all candidates within 5 weeks of the closing date of the vacancy.

