

Regular Grant-Paid Employee
Job Description

Job title	<i>Laboratory Technician</i>
Reports to	<i>Dr. A. Palma, Division of Immunology</i>
Faculty/ Department	<i>Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics</i>

Job purpose

The position involves studies of the immune system that relate to the mechanisms of B cell development and their production of antibody in immune deficiency and autoimmune diseases. The objective is to establish assays to characterize human blood T and B cells by flow cytometry, examine their ability to proliferate and differentiate from donor subjects. Then to extend these studies to work with samples of individuals with immune disorders to determine the role of underlying genetic mutations in immune development.

Duties and responsibilities

- Isolation of leukocytes and B cells from blood.
- Tissue culture of cells *in vitro* and stimulation with various agents to assess their response.
- Multicolor immunofluorescent staining of the leukocytes and analysis of this staining.
- RNA purification and qPCR analysis of mRNA from lymphocytes.
- Statistical analysis of this data will also be a part of the work.
- Experience in the operation and maintenance of the laboratory including ordering supplies, biosafety and hazardous waste compliance.

Qualifications

B.Sc. in biological sciences with relevant laboratory experience. The successful candidate must have lab experience working with cells *ex vivo*. Experience in immunology and/or cell biology is required. Experience with flow cytometry is highly preferred. Computer competency is required. The successful candidate will have the ability to work independently, have good verbal communication skills, and an ability to interact successfully with a broad range of individuals within Division of Immunology and Dalhousie University and the IWK Health Centre.

Working conditions

37.5 hours per week, mainly Monday to Friday, 9 am -5 pm, though extended hours or weekend coverage is occasionally required.

Supervisory/managerial

Reports operationally to Dr. A. Palma, Division of Immunology, Department of Pediatrics

Please address CV's and cover letters to:

Dr Alejandro Palma
Department of Pediatrics, Division of Immunology
IWK Health Centre

Email submission as one PDF, with applicant's name in the title, to:

Rebecca.Robertson@iwk.nshealth.ca and Alejandro.Palma@iwk.nshealth.ca