



Postdoctoral Research Associate

Grade and salary: Grade 7. £39,906 – £46,049 per annum

Working hours: Full time / 1 FTE

Tenure: Fixed term from 1 July 2026 for 30 months

Location: University campus

Faculty: Health and Life Sciences, ISMB, Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine

Recruiting department contact: harish.poptani@liverpool.ac.uk & magia@liverpool.ac.uk

Job ref: 112775

The Role

Role overview and University context:

You will be responsible for characterisation, biodistribution, efficacy and toxicity of long-acting-therapeutics using multimodal imaging technologies in animal models. The post requires involvement in all aspects of the various collaborative studies, including experimental design, cell culture and animal studies. Choice of imaging strategies, execution of imaging studies, analysis and interpretation of the results, presentation of data for intermediary reports and publications, as well as providing training and support to students. You will also be involved with the development, assessment, validation and/or standardisation of new imaging technologies and their reliable exploitation to answer biomedical questions.

You will be based in the Centre for Preclinical Imaging within the University of Liverpool's Shared Research Facility:

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/research/facilities/shared-research-facilities/centre-for-preclinical-imaging/>

The project is part of the recently funded [£13M EPSRC Hub for Advanced Long-Acting Therapeutics \(HALo\)](#), which aims to develop a globally leading centre for the fundamental science, regulatory know-how, and clinical manufacturing of LATs in the UK.

Key responsibilities and duties:

The successful candidate will be responsible for the characterisation and testing of long-acting therapeutics, capable of fulfilling the functions as outlined in duties below.

- Maintain and perform mammalian cell culture including characterisation using well established assays.
- Maintain and perform rodent models (mice and rats) for testing LATs using multi-modal imaging technologies including the 9.4T Bruker MRI, IVIS Spectrum, MPI, PET, SPECT, MSOT and ultrasound.
- Develop and implement new imaging and spectroscopic imaging sequences on the Bruker 9.4T magnet or the MPI scanner.
- Perform and analyse *in vivo* and *ex vivo* imaging studies.
- Participate in the development, assessment, validation and standardisation of new imaging technologies and their exploitation, in collaboration with the HALo team.
- Provide training, support and supervision to undergraduate and Masters students, regarding all aspects of *in vivo* imaging, including study design, image acquisition, image processing/quantification, interpretation of the results, analysis and presentation of the data for reports, publications and scientific communications.
- Ordering of consumables and equipment
- To carry out any other duties which may be required which are consistent with the nature and grade of the post
- Data compilation, processing, analysis and writing of publications as well as presenting the research findings at scientific meetings

Additional requirements:

Exposure to Animals:

As an applicant for a post which involves work in animal houses and/or handling animals, you should be aware that:

- There is a possibility that you may develop an allergy to the animals you are in contact with. The risk is substantially reduced if correct working practices are used and protective clothing is worn.
- Milder cases may be controlled by the use of protective clothing or medication and some people who are affected are able to continue working with animals.

The appointee will be required to complete a health screening questionnaire and clearance from Occupational Health must be received before exposure.

Control of Noise:

You will work in an area where noise has been identified as a potential hazard. A system to control the risks is in place. You may be required to wear hearing protection or to undergo checks on your hearing. Appointment will be subject to Occupational Health screening and clearance must be received before exposure.

In addition to the above, all University of Liverpool staff are required to:

- Adhere to all University policies and procedures, completing all obligatory training and induction modules, including Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety.
- Respect confidentiality: all confidential information should be kept in confidence and not released to unauthorised persons.
- Participate in the University's Professional Development Review scheme and take a proactive approach to own professional development.
- Demonstrate customer service excellence in dealing with all stakeholders.
- Embody and uphold the University's Vision and Values.

About you

Experience

Essential

1. Experience in mammalian cell culture.
2. Ability to acquire data, analyse and interpret images using preclinical imaging.
3. Knowledge of and relevant experience of pre-clinical imaging of rodents.
4. Ability to understand and communicate complex scientific information.
5. Ability to critically assess scientific proposals and judge the correct imaging approach to adopt to deliver their goals.

Desirable

1. Working with mice and/or rats with expertise in standard procedures including injections, anaesthesia, simple surgical procedures.
2. Experience working with hybrid imaging systems that contain multiple imaging modalities.
3. Expertise in programming pulse sequences on a Bruker platform or on MPI.
4. Expertise in image processing using Matlab or similar software programs used for image analysis.
5. Pharmacokinetic modelling.

Education, qualifications and training

Essential

1. PhD in Biological Sciences or a related discipline.

Skills, general and specialist Knowledge

Essential

1. Knowledge of and extensive experience with maintaining cell culture.
2. Planning, co-ordination, and organisational ability to meet challenges and deadlines.
3. Excellent IT skills including Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
4. Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
5. Excellent publication record as evidenced by published papers.

Desirable

1. Knowledge of and extensive experience with maintaining cell culture as well as *in-vivo* pre-clinical imaging of rodents.
2. Evidence of time management and interpersonal skills training.
3. Evidence of operating in a diverse environment.

Personal attributes

Essential

1. An ability to establish good working relationships at all levels.
2. Capacity for high-standard, high productivity research, and the potential to develop an independent profile as a research scientist.
3. Willingness and ability to train and help others in their research.
4. Ability to work independently as well as flexible and cooperative approach to working with others.
5. Proactive approach to work, showing initiative and independent thought.
6. Willingness to learn as well as set up new techniques within the laboratory as required.

About us

Established in 1881, we are an internationally renowned Russell Group university recognised for our high-quality teaching and research. We are consistently ranked as one of the best [universities](#) both nationally and globally, and the majority of our research is rated world leading or internationally excellent. [Find out more about us.](#)

Why Work Here

We recognise, appreciate and celebrate the incredible work our staff do every day. As well as generous terms and conditions, we offer a range of enviable benefits and provide support for colleague's wellbeing and development. Discover more [about working here.](#)

Moving from abroad

As a global institute, we welcome applicants from all nationalities, moving from a different country can be challenging and we would like to help as much as we can, we have put together some information on eligibility to work documentation, accommodation, schools, healthcare, life in Liverpool and the UK as well as other practical information. Discover more about [moving from abroad.](#)

Our Staff

Whether it be their friendly colleagues, supportive managers or our outstanding facilities, our staff can explain better than anyone what it is like to work for us and why they enjoy their role. See what our [colleagues have to say.](#)

How to Apply

Application process

Our e-recruitment system enables you to register for an online account, where you can view, copy and edit your applications. Set up your account on our [Vacancies Portal](#).

Once you submit your application you will receive an automatic email acknowledgment. You can view your application at any time by clicking into the application history section of your account.

The recruiting department will endeavour to respond to each application. However, if you have not heard within six weeks of the closing date, please take it that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

Job description

After the closing date this job description will be removed from our website. Should you wish to refer to this information at a later date please ensure you save a copy of this document.

Right to work

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it. The UKVI have an interactive tool allowing you to immediately see if vacancies are eligible for a Skilled Worker visa. You will need to know the SOC code for the role, view our [most used SOC codes](#), if none of these apply to this role, there are more codes on the eligibility checker. The skilled worker eligibility checker can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

Disabilities and alternative formats

If you have any other requirements which will help you access the application or interview process or employment opportunities at the University, or if you require copies documentation in alternative formats, please email: jobs@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 6771.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

