RESEARCH OFFICER

DEPARTMENT/UNIT: oNKo-innate Pty, Ltd
FACULTY/DIVISION: Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
CLASSIFICATION: HEW Level 6
WORK LOCATION: Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Monash is a university of transformation, progress and optimism. Our people are our most valued asset, with our academics among the best in the world and our professional staff revolutionising the way we operate as an organisation. For more information about our university and our exciting future, please visit www.monash.edu.

The Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, is the largest faculty at Monash University, and offers the most comprehensive suite of professional health training in Victoria. We consistently rank in the top 40 universities worldwide for clinical, pre-clinical and health sciences.

We want to improve the human condition. That is our vision - it has no expiration date. Through academic health centres, other translational models and by educating the healthcare workforce of the future, our staff, students and alumni directly improve quality of life.

Setting the global health care agenda, the Faculty aspires to lead in all areas of research activity and influence local, national and international policy to improve health and social outcomes and health inequalities. We've made a major impact in the world of medical research and become globally recognised for our quality education of over 41,000 doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals.

We are ambitious and aim to maintain our position as a leading international medical research university. We’re recognised for the breadth and depth of our research, for our commitment to translational research, for the quality and scale of our research capability, and as a thriving biotechnology hub.

To learn more about the Faculty, please visit monash.edu/medicine.

The Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute (BDI) is one of the largest and most dynamic biomedical research and teaching environments in Australia. The Institute and its cognate Departments of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Pharmacology and Physiology comprise over 120 research groups and deliver discipline-focused teaching into our flagship Bachelor of Biomedical Science Degree, the Bachelor of Science Degree, as well as the Medical School and various Health-related Degree Programs. We pride ourselves on an excellent and evolving teaching curriculum and provide world-class teaching and learning space for Biomedical Sciences.
The BDI comprises six inter-disciplinary health-focused research Programs, each led by a renowned leader in the field. The BDI programs include Infection and Immunity, Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease, Development and Stem Cells, Metabolism, Diabetes and Obesity and Neuroscience. The BDI works closely with clinical and drug development precincts at Monash and has a number of major industry partnerships to facilitate the translation of our research.

For more information about the BDI please visit our website at www.monash.edu/discovery-institute.

oNKo-innate Pty Ltd, founded by Prof Nicholas Huntington and Dr Jai Rautela, is a discovery-stage biotechnology company dedicated to target identification and pre-clinical immuno-oncology drug development. At oNKo-innate we believe that the next major advances in cancer immunotherapy will result from strategies that recruit, integrate and activate a more diverse immune response. With our leading understanding of Natural Killer “NK” cells as a key coordinator of efficient anti-tumor immunity, we are identifying and developing the next generation of immunotherapies. Please visit www.onko-innate.com to find out more.

**POSITION PURPOSE**

The Research Officer provides a variety of high-quality research services to support the protein engineering team within oNKo-innate. The protein engineering team runs an innovative research program into immuno-oncology drug target discovery and commercialization. The Research Officer performs a range of research activities to support the protein engineering team, including extensive mammalian cell culture and molecular biology, large scale DNA production, protein expression in prokaryotic and eukaryotic systems, and protein purification.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to oNKo-innate Protein Engineering Lead

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** Not applicable

**Financial Delegation:** Not applicable

**Budgetary Responsibilities:** Not applicable

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Plan, implement and coordinate a range of research and administrative tasks including providing laboratory/research support services, scheduling bookings, administering trials, experiments, treatments or questionnaires, data collection, input and analysis and preparing results in accordance with established research objectives, timeframes and protocols

2. Provide supervision, training and guidance to staff where applicable, including overseeing compliance with technical or research standards and protocols

3. Keep abreast of developments, activities and protocols in relevant research areas through liaison with staff and peers, reading relevant literature and attending meetings and seminars

4. Prepare reports and other documentation for research leaders, committees, funding bodies and other relevant stakeholders

5. Ensure compliance with established research methodology, policy, protocols, OHS and regulatory requirements and take steps to identify and minimise OHS risks where appropriate

6. Actively participate in and implement continuous improvement activities relating to project, research or technical procedures and quality assurance standards

7. Build and sustain effective working relationships with a network of colleagues, research collaborators and other stakeholders to support and facilitate research objectives
KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications
1. The appointee will have:
   - A tertiary qualification in a relevant field; or
   - substantial relevant skills and work experience; or
   - an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training

Knowledge and Skills
2. High-level analytical, technical, data analysis and research skills and a demonstrated capacity to develop and implement effective technical and research processes and systems
3. Excellent organisational skills, including the ability to set priorities, manage time and plan work to meet deadlines
4. Excellent and project coordination skills with the ability to support projects through to completion in accordance with agreed standards and timeframes
5. Demonstrated ability to work as an effective member of a team as well as the ability to exercise high levels of independence, judgement and initiative
6. Proven ability to adhere to protocols, standards and guidelines, including a thorough understanding of confidentiality, privacy and research ethics principles as required
7. Highly-developed written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to interact with a diverse range of stakeholders and negotiate positive outcomes to complex issues
8. Experience with advanced technologies including equipment and software, and demonstrated ability to quickly adapt to and learn new systems
9. Extensive experience in mammalian cell culture, molecular biology techniques (PCR, cloning, site directed mutagenesis) and with large scale DNA production (giga preps)
10. Experience with large scale protein expression in prokaryotic and eukaryotic systems
11. Experience in diverse protein purification approaches (e.g. size exclusion, ion exchange, hydrophobic interaction, antibody affinity chromatography), protein characterisation (e.g. native PAGE) is favourable

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION
- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted

GOVERNANCE
Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.