**Nuffield Department of Medicine**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Job title</strong></th>
<th>Postdoctoral Scientist in Virology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division</strong></td>
<td>Medical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department</strong></td>
<td>Nuffield Department of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>NDM Research Building, Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7FZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grade and salary</strong></td>
<td>Grade 7: £32,817 - £40,322 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>Full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contract type</strong></td>
<td>Fixed term for 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting to</strong></td>
<td>Professor Jane McKeating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vacancy reference</strong></td>
<td>143273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Research topic</strong></th>
<th>Effect of hypoxia on hepatitis B and C virus replication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Investigator / supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Jane A McKeating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding partner</strong></td>
<td>The funds supporting this research project are provided by Wellcome Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recent publications</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.ndmrb.ox.ac.uk/team/jane-mckeating">https://www.ndmrb.ox.ac.uk/team/jane-mckeating</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About the University of Oxford**

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford’s researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual’s unique contribution.
Nuffield Department of Medicine

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford. For more information, please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation.

Medical Sciences

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching. We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford.

World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: www.medsci.ox.ac.uk

Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM) …fostering your career in science

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM) is one of the largest departments of the University of Oxford and is part of the Medical Sciences Division, with responsibility for a significant part of the teaching of clinical students within the Medical School.

NDM has significant financial turnover and complexity, resulting from its diverse research portfolio, its geographical spread and its close links with NHS funding and strategic teams involved in the development and delivery of increasingly integrated clinical research platforms. For more information please visit: http://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine has been presented with a Departmental Athena SWAN Silver award in recognition of the commitment made to promote gender equality through our organisational and cultural practices and our efforts to improve the working environment for both men and women. For more information please see our Departmental Athena SWAN pages: https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/working-for-ndm/aboutndmatheneswan/

The NDM Research Building and Target Discovery Institute (TDI)

Situated on the Old Road Campus this new building represents the latest phase in continued development of the Medical Research Campus. This £22M new building allows the development of the Target Discovery Institute and expansion of existing research groups of NDM with research synergies. The building is 5,300 sq m (GIA) laboratory and office space housing some 160 research and support staff.
Nuffield Department of Medicine

The NDM Research Building constructed for the Nuffield Department of Medicine includes the Target Discovery Institute (TDI) with many academic partners. These include the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine and BHF Centre of Research Excellence (BHF Centre for Cardiovascular Target Discovery), Department of Radiation Oncology and Biology, Ludwig Cancer Institute, Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, Structural Genomics Consortium and the Department of Chemistry.

The TDI consists of six research groups covering high-throughput biology (Ebner group), advanced biological mass spectrometry (Kessler group), medicinal chemistry (Brennan group), chemoproteomics (Huber group), imaging (Rittscher group) and pharmacogenomics (Nijman group). TDI research facilities include technology platform facilities for high-throughput cell-based screening, cell-based assay development programs, discovery proteomics laboratory, medicinal chemistry and chemical biology programmes. There is support space for the scientists including a 90-seat seminar room, advanced IT and AV infrastructure and additional meeting rooms and break out spaces.

Job Description

Overview of the role

An innovative postdoctoral-level scientist with expertise in virology is required to conduct a project to define the role of HIFs in the viral hepatitis lifecycle. You will provide guidance to less experienced members of the research group, including postdocs, research assistants, technicians, and PhD and project students.

The research team headed by Prof Jane McKeating in the Nuffield Department of Medicine is carrying out basic research into the role of low oxygen or hypoxia on hepatitis B and C virus replication. The work is supported by the Wellcome Trust.

Hypoxia inducible transcription factors (HIFs) activate diverse pathways that regulate cellular metabolism, angiogenesis and proliferation, enabling a cell to respond to a hypoxic environment. Recent advances highlight a role for HIFs to regulate innate and adaptive immune responses, however, their role in persistent viral infections are not well understood.

We recently discovered that HIF-1α positively regulates hepatitis B and C virus (HBV/HCV) infectivity, demonstrating an unexpected role for this transcription factor in the replication of two distinct hepatotropic viruses. This project will explore how low oxygen and HIF-transcriptional pathways modulate virus replication with the goal of discovering new therapeutic targets to limit viral replication and associated pathologies.
Nuffield Department of Medicine

Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties:
This job includes the following hazards or safety-critical activities which will require successful pre-employment health screening through our Occupational Health Service before the successful candidate will be allowed to start work:

- Working with infectious pathogens (hazard group 2/3) - Hazard Group 3 pathogens

Responsibilities/duties

- Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines
- Adapt existing and develop new scientific techniques and experimental protocols
- Test hypotheses and analyse scientific data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining working hypotheses as appropriate
- Contribute ideas for new research projects
- Develop ideas for generating research income, and present detailed research proposals to senior researchers
- Collaborate in the preparation of scientific reports and journal articles and occasionally present papers and posters
- Use specialist scientific equipment in a laboratory environment
- Act as a source of information and advice to other members of the group on scientific protocols and experimental techniques
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone
- Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups

Essential criteria

- Hold or be close to completion of a PhD/DPhil in virology or hypoxia biology.
- Pre and/or postdoctoral research experience with sufficient knowledge in virology, innate immunity or hypoxia biology to work within established research programmes.
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities
Nuffield Department of Medicine

- Ability to take initiative in developing and troubleshoot new methods
- Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations, with two or more first author research articles in refereed journals.
- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and research income generation. Evidence of scientific creativity, and an ability to contribute to determining future directions for the research project
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results.
- Willingness to work with viral pathogens at containment level 3

Desirable criteria

- Expertise in the handling of hepatitis B and C viruses and working in containment level 3 laboratories.
- Expertise with virus infection of small animal models and associated animal license.
- Experience with supervision of student research projects

How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the ‘Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford’ document, at https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/research/

If you would like to apply, click on the Apply Now button on the ‘Job Details’ page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents as PDF files with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by midnight on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.
Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments).

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our e-recruitment system to confirm receipt of your application. Please check your spam/junk mail if you do not receive this email.
Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:
www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. The University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at grade 8 and above. The justification for this is explained at:
www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/

For existing employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at grades 1–7 have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
Benefits of working at the University

**Employee benefits**

University employees enjoy 38 days’ paid holiday, generous pension schemes, travel discounts, and a variety of professional development opportunities. Our range of other employee benefits and discounts also includes free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits).

**University Club and sports facilities**

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club offers social, sporting, and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and [www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities](http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities).

**Information for staff new to Oxford**

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation, and local schools. See [www.welcome.ox.ac.uk](http://www.welcome.ox.ac.uk). There is also a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents. See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/).

**Family-friendly benefits**

With one of the most generous family leave schemes in the Higher Education sector, and a range of flexible working options, Oxford aims to be a family-friendly employer. We also subscribe to My Family Care, a service that provides practical advice and support for employees who have caring responsibilities. The service offers a free telephone advice line, and the ability to book emergency back-up care for children, adult dependents and elderly relatives. See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/).

**Childcare**

The University has excellent childcare services, including five University nurseries as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries. For full details, including how to apply and the costs, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/).

**Disabled staff**

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University’s Staff Disability Advisor, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff).

**Staff networks**

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/).
The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff settle into Oxford, and provides them with an opportunity to meet people and make connections in the local area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk).