<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Job title</strong></th>
<th>Postdoctoral Research Scientist – Assay Development and Screening (maternity cover)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division</strong></td>
<td>Medical Sciences Division</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>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Whilst the role is a grade 7 (£32,817 - £40,322 p.a.) position, we would be willing to consider candidates with potential but less experience who are seeking a development opportunity, for which an initial appointment would be at grade 6 (£29,167 - £34,804 p.a.) with the responsibilities adjusted accordingly. This would be discussed with applicants at interview/appointment where appropriate.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>Full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contract type</strong></td>
<td>12 months (maternity leave cover)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting to</strong></td>
<td>Head of Biology/ Acting Assay development and screening Team Lead</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vacancy reference</strong></td>
<td>144840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research topic</strong></td>
<td>Assay development and screening for Alzheimer’s and dementia related diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Investigator / supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Dr John Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project team</strong></td>
<td>Assay development and screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project web site</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://oxford-ddi.alzheimersresearch.org">http://oxford-ddi.alzheimersresearch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding partner</strong></td>
<td>The funds supporting this research are provided by ARUK</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.

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
The Nuffield Department of 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.

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.

Alzheimer’s Research UK Oxford Drug Discovery Institute

The Alzheimer’s Research UK Oxford Drug Discovery Institute (Oxford DDI) is part of a newly formed, world-class, network of three drug discovery units sponsored by Alzheimer’s Research UK. This initiative is based on juxtaposing high quality drug discovery expertise alongside academic scientists possessing deep understanding of patients, disease mechanisms and model systems. The intent is to translate the cutting edge academic science into drug discovery and prosecute projects from target to lead status, and beyond. The focus will be on novel targets in the dementia therapeutic area.

Located in the Nuffield Department of Medicine Research Building on the Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford, the Oxford DDI is ideally placed. It is co-located within the Target Discovery Institute alongside the Oxford branch of the UK-National Phenotypic
Nuffield Department of Medicine

Screening Centre and is in close proximity to the Structural Genomics Consortium, other Oxford University research departments and major hospitals. A wide range of collaborative interactions have been initiated, upon which the Oxford DDI’s activities will be built and expanded. [http://aruk-oddi.medsci.ox.ac.uk/home](http://aruk-oddi.medsci.ox.ac.uk/home)

The Oxford DDI is led by the CSO, Dr John Davis and Prof Chas Bountra, the Lead Academic Scientist. The unit contains approximately thirty scientists, including both biologists and medicinal chemists, reporting to a Head of Biology and Head of Chemistry, respectively.

**Job Description**

**Overview of the role**

The Oxford Drug Discovery Institute is recruiting maternity cover for a postdoctoral scientist/research assistant, who will be part of a larger team carrying out research into new dementia targets. The successful candidate will carry out biophysical characterisation of new proteins, development of biochemical (enzymatic) and biophysical assays, medium-throughput screening of compound libraries, data analysis and finding of new chemical matter for hit identification.

**Responsibilities/duties**

Working closely with protein expression and purification scientists, characterize new proteins, develop biochemical (enzymatic) and biophysical assays, and carry out medium-throughput screening of compound libraries.

- Execute bench level experiments with the expectation that you will be able to write protocols, contribute to the design of experimental plans and develop new scientific techniques.

- Independently use automated liquid handling equipment for *in vitro* assays and plate formatting.

- Make detailed experimental observations and communicate critical input on experimental designs and approaches.

- 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.

- Carefully analyse data, report the results and suggest a plan moving forward.
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- You will possess excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills, collaborating in the preparation of scientific reports and occasionally presenting papers and posters.

- To carry out any other relevant duties as may reasonably be associated with the post and which may be required from time to time.

All employees will have to ensure that their work in the laboratory is conducted safely at all times and, in particular, that work is undertaken following the appropriate health and safety policies and procedures for the particular area, without compromise to their own safety or that of others who may be affected.

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:

- Lone working
- Work with any substance which has any of the following pictograms on their MSDS:

Selection criteria

Essential

- PhD or equivalent in biochemistry or related subject

- Previous experience in *in vitro* assay development including biochemical and biophysical assays

- Excellent background in protein production using bacteria, insect cells and mammalian expression systems

- Reliable, well organised, showing meticulous attention to detail

- Ability to effectively collaborate within a dynamic team environment

Desirable

- Previous experience in using liquid handling equipment

- Experience working in a high throughput environment and assay automation
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 midday 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

Data Privacy
Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University’s Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/. The University’s Policy on Data Protection is available at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/.

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.
Nuffield Department of Medicine

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.

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 club.ox.ac.uk and 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. 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/.

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/.

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/.

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.

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/.
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.