Job title	Research Assistant
Division	Medical Sciences Division
Department	Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine
Location	Jenner Institute, Old Road Campus Research Building, Roosevelt Drive, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7DQ
Grade and salary	Grade 6: £29,176 - £34,804 per annum
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term (1 year in the first instance from date of advertisement), externally-funded
Reporting to	Associate Professor Teresa Lambe, PI
Vacancy reference	*145150*
Additional information	Security screening will be required for this post. This position is funded by: Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)

Research topic	Delineating the immune response against CCHFV and other Outbreak Pathogens to aid effective vaccine design
Principal Investigator / supervisor	Teresa Lambe (PI)
Project team	Emerging Pathogens Vaccine program, under the direction of Associate Prof. Teresa Lambe, Prof. Sarah Gilbert and Prof. Adrian Hill.
Project web site	www.ox.ac.uk/ https://www.jenner.ac.uk/home https://twitter.com/jenneratingvacc?lang=en https://www.jenner.ac.uk/jenner-researchers/researcher/teresa-lambe#research
Funding partner	Funded by Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
Recent publications	1. Viral vectors as vaccine platforms: from immunogenicity to impact. Ewer KJ, Lambe T, Rollier CS, Spencer AJ, Hill AV, Dorrell L. Curr Opin Immunol. 2016; 41: 47-54. 2. Protective efficacy of a novel simian adenovirus vaccine against lethal MERS-CoV challenge in a transgenic

	human DPP4 mouse model. Munster VJ, Wells D, Lambe T, Wright D, Fischer RJ, Bushmaker T, Saturday G, van Doremalen N, Gilbert S, de Wit E, Warimwe GM. npj Vaccines, 2017; 2(28). 3. ChAdOx1 and MVA based vaccine candidates against MERS-CoV elicit neutralizing antibodies and cellular immune responses in mice. Alharbi NK, Padron-Regalado E, Thompson CP, Kupke A, Wells D, Sloan MA, Grehan K, Temperton N, Lambe T, Warimwe G, Becker S, Hill AVS, Gilbert S. Vaccine 35, 2017; 3780-3788. 4. Humoral Immunogenicity and Efficacy of a Single Dose of ChAdOx1 MERS Vaccine Candidate in Dromedary Camels. Alharbi NK, Qasim I, Almasoud A, Aljami HA, Alenazi MW, Alhafufi A, Aldibasi OS, Hashem AM, Kasem S, Albrahim R, Aldubaib M, Almansour A, Temperton NJ, Kupke A, Becker S, Abu-Obaidah A, Alkarar A, Yoon IK, Azhar E, Lambe T, Bayoumi F, Aldowerij A, Ibrahim OH, Gilbert SC, Balkhy HH. Sci Rep, 2019; 8;9(1). 5. A single-dose ChAdOx1-vectored vaccine provides complete protection against Nipah Bangladesh and Malaysia I Syrian golden hamsters. Van Doremalen N, Lambe T, Sebastian S, Bushmaker T, Fischer R, Feldmann F, Haddock E, Letko M, Avanzato AA, Rissanen I, LaCasse R, Scott D, Bowden TA, Gilbert S, Munster V. PLoS Negl Top Dis, 2019;13(6).

Key Objective:

This Research Assistant will play a key role in the Emerging Pathogens Vaccine Group's on-going programme of work. The primary focus will be to work as a member of the team responsible for delineating the immune response against Emerging Pathogens to aid effective vaccine design.

Background:

The Jenner Institute is a leading multi-centre research facility, which focuses on developing innovative vaccines and performing comparative immunology studies. We regularly advance preclinical vaccines through to phase I and IIa clinical trials to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of novel vaccines. Primarily these trials are performed in healthy volunteers in the UK with parallel studies conducted in overseas disease-endemic areas.

Vaccines are one of the world's most important public health achievements, yet their life-saving potential has not been realised for many emerging epidemic threats. Emerging pathogen outbreaks disproportionately affect low-income countries, where the risks and needs are often greatest, putting immense pressure on already fragile health systems and economies. The Jenner Institute has produced vaccines against malaria, HIV, tuberculosis and influenza, all of which are in clinical development. In recent years there has been a strong interest in the development of vaccines against emerging pathogens such as the Ebola and Zika viruses. Recently, the Jenner Institute, in partnership with Janssen Vaccines, has secured funding from the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI http://cepi.net/) to continue development of vaccines against three emerging pathogens: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) Coronavirus, Nipah virus and Lassa virus.

We have a strong record of attracting external grant funding, a robust publication record, and the programme(s) for vaccine development toward emerging pathogens have expanded significantly in recent years. Working closely with the clinical team, there is a strong translational emphasis, with full integration of the clinical and laboratory teams. Together, we aim to foster scientific excellence within a welcoming and progressive environment.

Job Description:

The post holder will be a member of an Emerging Pathogens Vaccine program, under the direction of Professor Teresa Lambe, some overseas travel may be required.

We will test the immune responses after natural exposure to, as well as controlled infection with Emerging Pathogens foreseeing that this immune profiling will escalate antigenic targets to become vaccine components in elimination campaigns.

The Research Assistant will support the on-going programme of vaccine development against emerging pathogens. You will be responsible for the running of immune assays (e.g ELISA/ELISpot) to measure immune responses post vaccination, including assessment of both cellular and humoral immunity. You will be a highly organised, motivated individual with proven experience in immunology assessment.

The position will be based at the Jenner Institute Laboratories, at the university's Old Road Campus in Headington.

Responsibilities

- To participate in the research programme led by Associate Professor Teresa Lambe to delineate the immune response against Outbreak Pathogen vaccines to aid effective vaccine design.

- To perform research work to a high standard including ELISPOT, ELISA, flow cytometry and other functional assays. Some of this work will involve samples taken from volunteers and will require the Research Assistant to work to GCP (good clinical practice) standards.

- To perform research in cellular biology including sterile cell culture methodologies.

- To develop, progress and establish methodologies that can be used for the quantification of neutralising antibody titres toward emerging pathogens.

- To participate in research programmes of vaccine development.

- To analyse data and present them to the Senior Immunologist and wider group.

- To be responsible for overseeing the daily housekeeping of the laboratory area and perform tasks including reagent preparation, stock control of laboratory consumables, biobanking of samples and maintain records of all assays and samples.

- To participate in and contribute directly to scientific discussions with other members of the research group and collaborators on the project.

- To participate in the education and training of other staff as necessary and appropriate.

- To undertake such other duties as may be required from time to time that are commensurate with the grade and responsibilities of this post.

- To ensure that work in the laboratory is conducted safely and, in particular, that work is undertaken using appropriate safety procedures and in the dedicated areas.

- To accord due regard to the University Equal Opportunities and Data Protection policies.

- Participate in and support the public engagement and widening access activities of the Department and the University. This is anticipated to be not more than 2 days per year.

- Undertake mandatory training as required by the University, Division and Department. The specific list of training courses may change from time-to-time, in response to both legal and internal University requirements.

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.

Pre-employment screening

All offers of employment are made subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post.

If you are offered the post, you will be asked to provide proof of your right-to-work, your identity, and we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration (so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities so that we can discuss appropriate adjustments with you), and a declaration of any unspent criminal convictions.

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/.

Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties

This job includes hazards or safety-critical activities. If you are offered the post, you will be asked to complete a health questionnaire which will be assessed by our Occupational Health Service (OHS), and the offer of employment will be subject a successful outcome of this assessment.

The hazards or safety-critical duties involved are as follows:

- Lone Working
- Work with allergens, e.g. laboratory animals, pollen, dust, fish or insects etc.
- Work with any substance which has any of the following pictograms on their MSDS:

- Working with infectious pathogens (hazard group 2/3) - Hazard Group 3 pathogens
- Working with blood, human products and human tissues

Additional security pre-employment checks

This job includes duties that will require additional security pre-employment checks:

- A satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check due to
- University security screening (eg identity checks)

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

- A first degree or equivalent in a relevant biological subject (you must indicate your degree class on your application or it will not be considered).
- A keen interest in outbreak and emerging pathogens and immunology of infectious diseases.
- Experienced with immunology testing and preferably vaccine development.
- The ability to interpret scientific data and undertake basic statistical analysis.
- Self-motivated, technically competent and capable of working independently in a laboratory.
- Keen attention to detail and able to process samples to a consistently high standard.
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to work on multiple projects.
- Good interpersonal skills to interact with other team members, as well as staff in the wider institute and international collaborators.
- Good documentation and computer skills (Excel and Word).

Desirable

- Experience of cellular immunology assays. e.g. ELISpot and FACS and ICS.
- Experience with standard antibody-based immunology techniques, e.g. ELISA, protein production and cell culture.
- Experience of working to GCP
- Containment Level 3 or Biosafety Level 3 experience.
- UK PIL or equivalent.

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 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: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/working-for-ndm/aboutndmatheneswan/ .

The Jenner Institute

The Jenner Institute was founded in November 2005 to develop innovative vaccines against major global diseases. Uniquely it focuses both on diseases of humans and livestock and tests new vaccine approaches in parallel in different species. A major theme is translational research involving the rapid early-stage development and assessment of new vaccines in clinical trials.

For more information please visit: department website http://www.jenner.ac.uk/

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

http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/research/

http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/professionalandmanagement/

http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/supportandtechnical/

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 department(s).

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.

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 www.club.ox.ac.uk and 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.
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.