

HOSPITAL SERVICES

ADVANCED BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST MICROBIOLOGY

BAND 7

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB SUMMARY:

The Clinical Microbiology department at the P.E.H provides a comprehensive Microbiology service. The laboratory receives approximately 35-40K specimens per year divided between Bacteriology, Serology, Mycology and Molecular Microbiology. In addition, the department provides epidemiological data to the Infection Prevention & Control team and the Environmental and Public Health Directorate.

The Advanced Biomedical Scientist participates in the provision of a comprehensive Microbiology service on behalf of the Health & Social Care Department acting in accordance with the Clinical Governance procedures.

The department of Clinical Microbiology interacts with a wide range of stakeholders. The Advanced Biomedical Scientist must have the appropriate skills to deal with multi-professional staff and the public, in addition be able to provide expert advice to clinicians and senior managers regarding all aspects of Clinical Microbiology. The role requires extensive advanced theoretical and practical knowledge of Bacteriology, Virology, Mycology and Molecular microbiology.

The post holder is required to contribute to the training and supervision of junior scientific, scientific support and administrative staff based on the Institute of Biomedical Sciences (IBMS) training guidelines.

They are responsible for processing and reporting of specialist investigations including providing guidance to clinicians within their professional scope of practice.

They act as lead biomedical scientist for a specialist area on a rotational basis and work individually or as part of a small team to contribute to the development of new procedures and practices for specialist investigations.

RELATIONSHIPS:

Managerially accountable to the Head of Microbiology.

Clinically accountable to the Clinical lead for pathology services.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Hours of work are 37.5 hours per week, Saturday mornings on a rota basis and multi-disciplinary out of hour's on-call on a rota basis.

Supervise junior grades of staff within the microbiology team including;

- Provide oversight and guidance to junior staff members.
- Where required develop training programmes for trainee scientific and administrative staff members.
- Where required assist the head of department in competency assessments.

Maintain multifaceted relationships with all key service stakeholders. These relationships require the ability to provide detailed information and may require persuasiveness, motivational and reassurance skills.

- Notify and discuss abnormal results, which require immediate clinical attention with the Duty Consultant Microbiologist and relevant healthcare teams.
- Provide advice and technical interpretation of sensitive and complex results
- Provide advice and guidance to healthcare practitioners on appropriate testing. This may include situations where testing is contentious or complex.
- Use experience and knowledge to guide and inform the Infection, Prevention & Control Team of all notifiable diseases and potential cross infection concerns.
- Attend laboratory meetings and represent microbiology at wider team meetings as directed by the department head.

Process clinical microbiology samples in accordance with all relevant clinical governance procedures and bodies.

- Where departmental standard operating procedures exist; Carry out work in accordance.
- Where departmental procedures do not exist act independently using knowledge and experience and in accordance with the professional codes of conduct.
- Acting independently and rotating through specialist disciplines of Bacteriology/Serology/Mycology/Parasitology and Molecular Diagnostics.
- Use the laboratory computer system to input requests, validate and report results where appropriate.
- Interpret complex results and make technical recommendations to clinical colleagues where a range of options may be available.
- Deal with enquiries and complaints to the Microbiology department.
- Report clinical incidents using the hospital reporting system.
- Take responsibility for stock rotation/control for specialist areas.
- Take responsibility for the routine maintenance and quality assurance of complex analysers.
- Record keeping data entry and quality procedures.
- Update and maintain departmental SOP's and quality records.
- Participate in internal/external audit and other departmental data collection activities.

- Develop new quality procedures in conjunction with and as directed by the head of department.
- Assist with the implementation of policy and strategy for the microbiology department and contribute to development of policy for multidisciplinary out of hour's service.

Contribute to the wider goals of Pathology.

- Assist the Laboratory Services Manager or head of department with development of policy projects and strategy when requested.
- Promote the wider Pathology department with internal and external stake holders.
- In the absence of the department head carry out such duties as to ensure the efficient running of the department.

Work out of hours as part of the Pathology on-call service.

- Work independently across different disciplines within pathology.
- Deal with high-pressure situations and professional colleagues, where specimen analysis is urgent to patient care.
- Provide and receive complex and sensitive information and if appropriate provide guidance/recommendation on reflex testing.

Training and Development.

- Maintain a high level of personal CPD in accordance with annual appraisal & objectives.
- Monitor technical developments within the field of Microbiology and contribute to laboratory meetings with ideas and suggestions for development.
- Maintain an up to date knowledge of regional and global epidemiological trends and adapt working practices in discussion with the head of Microbiology.

KEY CRITERIA:

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Holds a Master's degree or equivalent (Can be considered at Band 6 if no Master's degree).

ESSENTIAL

1. Registered with the Health & Care Profession Council
2. Significant experience in Microbiology post registration with highly developed theoretical and practical knowledge
3. Excellent communication skills
4. Office IT skills

DESIRABLE

1. Experience with Technidata Laboratory information system
2. Experience with Biomerieux Vitek, BacT/Alert, Vidas & Cepheid GeneXpert.
3. Experience of working in small teams or remote environments
4. Training experience