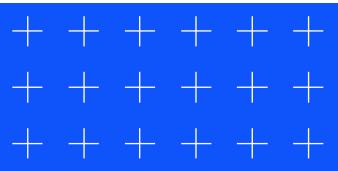


# Advancing health for everyone, every day.

Could this be you?

Join the Royal Melbourne Hospital team





**Position Description** 

Medical Diagnostic and Research Scientist





#### THE ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL

The Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH) began in 1848 as Victoria's first public hospital. And while we only had 10 beds to our name, we had the community of Melbourne behind us, and we were ready to provide the best possible care for those in need.

Since those early years, we've moved forward with purpose. Always at the forefront, leading the way on improving the quality of life for all.

Today the RMH is one of the largest health providers in the state, providing a comprehensive range of specialist medical, surgical, and mental health services; as well as rehabilitation, aged care, outpatient and community programs.

Our reputation for caring for all Melburnians is as essential to who we are as any scientific breakthrough we make. We're here when it matters most, and we'll continue to be the first to speak out for our diverse community's wellbeing.

#### **OUR VISION**

## Advancing health for everyone, every day.

#### THE MELBOURNE WAY

People are at the heart of everything

understand how we can make the

most positive difference for them.

we do. We take the time to

At the RMH we're inspired by our vision of Advancing health for everyone, every day. While we're each going about our different roles, we're united by a shared understanding of the way we do things around here. We call it the Melbourne Way. We put people first — leading with kindness and working together, we excel as one Royal Melbourne Hospital.

### People First



Lead with Kindness

unique.



Our care and compassion sets
us apart. We lead the way with
a respectful, inclusive spirit —

True excellence is only possible when we work as one Royal
Melbourne Hospital community.

# Excellence Together



when we work as one Royal Melbourne Hospital community. Through collaboration, we set the highest of standards and achieve our goals.

#### **OUR PRIORITIES**

The RMH Strategic Plan: Towards 2025. Advancing health for everyone, every day is our plan for the future — one which we are committed to achieving together. This position contributes to the achievement of the five Strategic Goals, articulated in the plan:

embracing the things that make us all

- 1. Be a great place to work and a great place to receive care
- 2. Grow our Home First approach
- 3. Realise the potential of the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct
- 4. Become a digital health service
- 5. Strive for sustainability





## **Position Description**

Position Title: Medical Diagnostic and Research Scientist

Service: Clinical Governance & Medical Service

**Location:** The Doherty Institute

Reports To: MRL Section Head

Enterprise Agreement: 4. Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists

Victorian Public Health Sector (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025

Classification: Grade 2

**Employment Status:** Fixed Term 9 months, 0.5 FTE

Immunisation Risk Category: Category A

Date of Review: October 2025

#### **POSITION SUMMARY**

The Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL) is a leading Australian infectious diseases reference laboratory located in Melbourne, Victoria. VIDRL is part of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity (the Doherty). The Doherty is a joint venture between Melbourne Health and the University of Melbourne. VIDRL provides the Victorian Department of Health with virology and Mycobacteria public health reference laboratory services, including surveillance, outbreak investigations, reference testing and research. VIDRL also performs diagnostic testing in virology, bacteriology, mycology and parasitology for Victorian hospitals. VIDRL has national reference laboratory designations to the Commonwealth Department of Health for polio and enteroviruses, measles, viral haemorrhagic fevers and smallpox. VIDRL also has a strong commitment to international health programs through WHO now in its 48th year. VIDRL has WHO Collaborating Centre designations for Reference and Research on Influenza, Mycobacterium ulcerans, and Viral Hepatitis together with WHO Regional Reference Laboratory designations for poliovirus, measles and hepatitis B, and is a WHO National Influenza Centre.

This role will support VIDRL's Mycobacterium Reference Laboratory (MRL) which provides rapid-turnaround diagnostic testing from primary specimens for all mycobacteria – especially *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Mycobacterium ulcerans*. The MRL also provides reference functions for mycobacteria for the state of Victoria, specifically performing identification and susceptibility testing utilising both conventional and molecular methods from submitted isolates within Victoria and the Northern Territory. The MRL works closely with the Victorian Tuberculosis Program.

The role will also involve scientific research project-based work related to the DEMIST project, a collaborative project between the MRL, Burnet Institute, University of Melbourne and Monash University.





The incumbent will be expected to work independently on experiments within the MRL, aimed to understand the impact of ultraviolet irradiation on the viability of *M.tuberculosis* complex (MTBC) and other organisms.

Broad responsibilities will include:

- To participate in the performance of specific laboratory tasks within the MRL
- Perform other laboratory duties as directed by the Senior Scientist or equivalent
- Assist with the performance of laboratory maintenance
- · Assist with staff training
- To perform and understand diagnostic workflow within a NATA accredited laboratory.
- Conduct work at Physical containment level 3 (PC3) and containment level 2 (PC2).
- To develop research related Standard Operating Procedures
- To independently undertake specific research related laboratory activities and tasks
- To keep concise, auditable and timely documentation of research records

#### **KEY VIDRL ACCOUNTABILITIES**

- To perform diagnostic testing for mycobacteria using culture, microscopy, and molecular techniques.
- To perform research related testing including, but not limited to, preparation of Mycobacteria inocula, utilisation of aerosolization chamber, determination of colony forming units, manipulation of reporter MTBC strains and flow cytometry.
- To participate in ongoing training, education and individual personal development
- Have an understanding of VIDRL standard operating practices, best Laboratory practice at PC2 and PC3, Quality Management System and other compliance requirements from external organizations as required (eg NATA, OGTR, DAFF etc).
- Provide quality work, service provision, teaching and research as directed
- Assist students and visiting scientists.
- · Maintain equipment in the MRL.
- To participate in performance appraisal.
- To assist in the performance of quality control procedures and the monitoring of reagents.
- Work collaboratively and professionally with VIDRL laboratory staff and external partners.

#### **KEY RMH ACCOUNTABILITIES**

- Take reasonable care for your safety and wellbeing and that of others.
- Work in your scope of practice and seek help where required.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues across all RMH teams.
- Continue to learn through mandatory training and other learning activities.
- Seek feedback on your work including participation in annual performance discussion.
- Speak up for safety, our values and wellbeing.
- Respect that the RMH is a smoke-free environment.





#### **KEY RELATIONSHIPS**

#### Internal

- MRL Section head
- VIDRL Section Heads
- All VIDRL laboratories
- VIDRL registrar

#### External

- Doherty Institute members
- Clinicians
- VIDRL Clients
- DEMIST project staff
  - Burnet Institute
  - University of Melbourne
  - Monash University

#### **KEY SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### Formal Qualifications

 Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science, Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science or equivalent

#### **Essential:**

- · Proven track record of research, including publications and grant funding
- Excellent organisational skills and time management
- · Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- · Excellent attention to detail
- Proven ability to work well within a team
- Commitment to live the Melbourne Way putting people first, leading with kindness and achieving excellence together

#### Desirable:

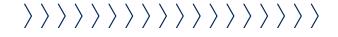
- PhD in microbiology or related field
- Previous laboratory experience working with mycobacteria
- Previous experience with working in a high containment facility
- Relevant knowledge of microbiological standards, including NATA, Department of Agriculture (Quarantine Accredited Premises), The National Health Security Act (DoH)
- Good Clinical Practice Credentialing

#### **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Your performance will be measured through your successful:

- · Attention to detail
- · Work well with team members
- Follow all laboratory protocols and laboratory compliances





- Work safely within a laboratory environment with infectious agents
- Demonstration of RMH values
- · Achievement of research specific KPI targets
- Participation in and satisfactory feedback through the annual performance review process
- · Ability to maintain a safe working environment and ensure compliance with legislative requirements

#### AT THE RMH WE:

- Aim to provide a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of all employees, patients and consumers, and visitors.
- Speak up for patient, consumer, colleague and visitor safety, escalating issues if required.
- Deliver Safe, Timely, Effective, Person-centred Care (STEP) in line with our clinical governance framework.
- Are an equal opportunity employer, committed to providing a work environment free of harassment and discrimination. We promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace.
- Work in accordance with relevant policies, procedures, standards and legislation including those related to clinical or competency requirements, risk management, discrimination, equal opportunity and health safety and wellbeing.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I acknowledge and accept that this position description represents the duties, responsibilities and accountabilities that are expected of me in my employment in the position. I understand that the RMH reserves the right to modify position descriptions as required, however I will be consulted when this occurs.

Employe	ee Signatu	ire			
Employe	ee Name (	please print)			
	/	/			
Date					