

# **Position Description**

Position Title: Senior Research Fellow/Team Lead Enteric Viruses

Salary Range: MCRI Research Salaries - Level C Steps 1-6

Reporting Manager: Professor Julie Bines

Direct Reports: None

Home Group: Enteric Disease

Children are at the heart of everything we do.

The Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) is home to significant scientific discoveries. We believe there is an answer, a cure, or a better treatment for every childhood condition — and we are determined to find it.

We are a diverse team of world-leading researchers, doctors, engineers, and hardworking professionals in corporate and scientific services from all corners of the world with one shared goal — to transform child health worldwide.

Our strength lies in our partnership and co-location with The Royal Children's Hospital and the University of Melbourne — the Melbourne Children's Campus. This rare model amplifies opportunities to quickly translate research into clinical care.

At MCRI, you will also find our subsidiary organisation, the Victorian Clinical Genetics Services (VCGS), a specialist childhood, prenatal and adult genetics service. VCGS provides an integrated genetic consultation, counselling, testing and diagnostic support service to children, adults, families, and prospective parents.

Together, we share a powerful vision: re-imagine the future of child health.

#### What is it like to work for us?

We are committed to ensuring a positive working environment that values all backgrounds and experiences. We cultivate an inclusive culture that is underpinned by equal opportunity for all and a culture based on respect, consideration, and dignity. We are also committed to developing our People and fostering an environment where learning and development is central to our staff reaching their full potential.

## **Position Overview**

As Team Leader of the Enteric Virus Group, you will have the opportunity to lead an internationally recognised group in enteric viruses. The team has a long-standing history of excellence in enteric virus research spanning from the discovery of rotavirus as the major cause of childhood gastroenteritis over 50 years ago to exploring the role of unusual and emerging enteric viruses in human health. The Team has important global links as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Child Health (Rotavirus Research), the WHO Rotavirus Regional Reference Laboratory for the Western Pacific Region and the Australian National Rotavirus Reference Laboratory, overseeing the Australian Rotavirus Surveillance Program. The Enteric Virus Team has supported the clinical trials of the RV3-BB rotavirus vaccine (developed at MCRI) and supports commercial partners in the development of the RV3-BB vaccine. The Enteric Virus Team is actively involved in

the Global Paediatric Diarrhea Surveillance Program, supported by WHO and the US CDC and has active research in collaboration with international NGOs, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and PATH. This position requires a mid/senior post-doctoral fellow who is keen to lead and further develop the Enteric Virus Team.

### **Key Accountabilities**

- · Leads, develops and manages the activities of the Enteric Virus laboratory and the Enteric Virus Team
- Leads, develops and manages the performance of employees to create a positive scientific research culture
- Leads and manages the WHO Collaborating Centre for Child Health and WHO Rotavirus Regional Reference Laboratory
- Leads and manages the Australian National Rotavirus Reference laboratory and the Australian Rotavirus Surveillance Program
- Conducts ethical research at the highest level of integrity and in line with the Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research and MCRI policies
- Conducts research activities in alignment with the strategic direction of the Institute
- Is competitive for an NHMRC Emerging and/or Leadership Investigator Grant or equivalent
- Attracts external competitive funding and has a record of high quality publications, potential commercial/clinical/public health research impact and peer recognition
- Conducts research independently or as a senior member or leader of a team
- Has lead authorship (first or senior) in Tier 2 publications (highly recognised field specific journals) and is a listed author in Tier 1 publications
- Participates in external journal and grant reviews and internal peer review activities
- Attends/invited to speak at national and international conferences and seminars
- Demonstrates leadership through coaching and group mentorship activities
- Supervises (Co- or Primary) honours and postgraduate students, examines theses (honours and postgraduate) and may make contributions to the design of postgraduate teaching and research programs
- Leads by example through activities such as attendance at meetings, membership of committees, and internal and external conference presentations
- Is engaged in the campus culture including professional development activities, membership of campus committees and contributes to/attending internal/external campus conferences and seminars
- Leads the preparation of research proposal submissions to external funding bodies as Chief Investigator
- Fosters relationships with key internal and external stakeholders
- Manages project/grant finances and complies with funding body requirements
- · Conducts continuous maintenance of neat and orderly records, lab books and data storage
- Evaluates opportunities for commercialisation/translation if relevant

#### Selection Criteria

- Relevant PhD/Doctoral qualification
- At least 7 years postdoctoral experience (relative to opportunity) and appropriate level of expertise gained from a combination of experience, training or professional accreditation
- Evidence of postdoctoral research outputs and impact as evidenced by publication records (including first or senior author papers), conference attendance and speaking invitations
- Demonstrated record of success in securing external competitive funding
- Advanced communication, presentations and writing skills
- Demonstrated experience and ability to lead and mentor employees in order to foster a positive scientific research culture
- Evidence of successful higher degree student completions
- Evidence of research independence
- Evidence of research recognition at a national level and is working towards international recognition as an outstanding researcher
- Excellence in virology, particularly as it relates to enteric viruses
- Management of a highly efficient Enteric Virus Laboratory
- Collaboration with experts in virology, particularly as it relates to Enteric Virus research and surveillance

# **Conditions of Employment**

- Working with Children & National Police Clearance (if appointed) in compliance with the Victorian Governments Child Safety Standards
- The right to reside and work in Australia and you meeting any applicable visa conditions

#### Health, Safety & Wellbeing

- We are committed to providing and maintaining a working environment which protects the health, safety and wellbeing of our people, partners and the community
- Employees conducting duties on behalf of MCRI are expected to meet the environment, health and wellbeing requirements and responsibilities specifically required for the role
- We are committed to supporting children in their right to be safe and adhere to the responsibilities we have to ensure their protection and safety as per the Child Safety Standards Policy
- Specified positions may be subject to medical review to ensure that the inherent requirements of the role can be undertaken safely

As MCRI evolves to meet its changing strategic and operational needs and objectives, so will the roles required of its employees. As such, this document is not intended to represent the position which the occupant will perform in perpetuity. This position description is intended to provide an overall view of the incumbent's role as at the date of this statement.