

Rodent Research Technician II

1.0 JOB SUMMARY

The Research Technician II (“RT II”) will have a solid understanding of each individual’s roles and responsibilities within the company and within research studies. The RT II will have a clear understanding of and be able to perform a majority of the procedures at Transpharmation Canada within the Rodent Department. The RT II will demonstrate a clear understanding of the complexities of a research trial and be able to efficiently follow study protocols, with continued guidance from the Study Director/Coordinator.

2.0 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 KEY ACTIVITIES

- Assist and perform assigned *in vivo* study procedures in the Rodent Department.
- Record and document experimental details with a high level of integrity, ethics and accuracy.
- Assist in the preparation of data summary reports, study related data entry, Quality Control.
- Perform study-related husbandry duties to ensure proper animal care practices are adhered to and are according to CCAC guidelines and facility SOPs.
- Work within a team to ensure that projects are successfully conducted and completed to a high level of quality and scientific competence.
- Participate in the maintenance of an adequate inventory of supplies.
- Assist the Rodent Department Manager in the maintenance and operation of animal facility and husbandry in accordance with CCAC guidelines and Animals for Research Act.
- Participate in internal working groups (eg. animal care committee, health and safety, etc).
- Demonstrate process and techniques to new employees and visitors.
- Other duties as assigned

2.2 DUTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE RODENT WING

- General techniques:
 - Operate centrifuges and perform advanced blood separation
 - Drug administrations (SC, IM, IP, IV, oral, interdermal, etc.)
 - Survival blood collection (saphenous, tail snip, submandibular, catheter, etc.)
 - Terminal blood collection, tissue/organ extraction and weighing
 - Anaesthesia/Analgesia in support of surgery and animal welfare
 - Euthanasia
 - Restrain animals for procedures as needed
- Seizure Testing:
Perform and/or support seizure testing, including but not limited to:

- MES
- 6Hz
- Corneal Kindling
- Amygdala Kindling
- Pain Testing:
Perform and/or support pain testing from start to end independently, including but not limited to:
 - Von Frey
 - Acetone drop
 - Tail flick
 - Formalin
- Behavioral testing:
 - Prepare rooms for testing
 - Ability to operate test apparatus for behavioral and cognitive testing (LMA, rotarod, grip strength, core body temperature, watermaze, etc.)
 - Daily observations (health observations for safety studies)
- Operant testing:
 - Ability to independently run operant training
- Data Management:
 - Ability to create basic graphs from experimental results
 - Understand basic data analysis (means, standard error, median, interquartile)
- Any other duties as deemed necessary

2.3 INTERACTION

This position requires coordination of resources (i.e. equipment, supplies) with other Research Technician, Animal Care Technicians and Study Coordinators. It also requires the ability to learn new skills and procedures as well as teach skills efficiently.

2.4 COMMUNICATION

Communications are with the Rodent Department Manager and other facility staff and employees within the organization. Collaboration, execution, and reporting of the quality assurance program. Verbal communication is required to request and receive instructions for work, to report on activities, results, problems, and to participate in planning and scheduling of work and equipment use. Written communication is required for accurate and detailed recording of procedures, for reporting results and for completing documentation. Reading and comprehension of written protocols and manuals is essential.

3.0 WORKING CONDITIONS

3.1 ENVIRONMENT

There will be occasional periods of several hours per day exposed to noxious odours from diagnostic materials and/or samples. There will also be the occasional need to work with chemicals in a controlled environment.

3.2 RISK TO HEALTH

There will be the occasional exposure to small quantities of toxic irritant or corrosive chemicals as well as exposure to freezers (-80C) while storing and retrieving materials.

4.0 PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The demands of this position include: standing, bending, twisting, lifting, carrying liquid containers, carrying boxes weighing up to 20 kg and daily periods of keyboarding.

4.2 PHYSICAL DEXTERITY

Agility, accuracy and consistency will be required while handling precision instruments such as, pipettes, balances, pH meters, surgical instruments. Strong fine motor skills in fingers, hands, and arms.

5.0 QUALIFICATIONS

5.1 EDUCATION

- Veterinary diploma or B.Sc. degree in a relevant field (e.g. Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics, Veterinary Sciences, Biochemistry) and/or relevant equivalent with at least 2 years of direct experience.
- CALAS RLAT certification encouraged.

5.2 EXPERIENCE

- Experience as a Research Technician I for at least 1 year or relevant experience
- Experience within a laboratory environment
- Experience handling confidential laboratory and scientific data
- Experience executing administrative strategies

5.3 KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of the basic principles of biology, immunology and chemistry
- Knowledge of the principles of safe handling of potentially pathogenic substances and contaminated materials
- Familiar with the following acts and regulations: ISO Guide 17025 (1990) and GLP (both Code of Federal Regulations and OECD guidelines).