

UCL Institute of Neurology

Queen Square

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The Institute of Neurology is a specialist postgraduate institute of UCL. The Institute is closely associated in its work with the National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery, University College London Hospitals' NHS Foundation Trust, and in combination they form a national and international centre at Queen Square for teaching, training and research in neurology and allied clinical and basic neurosciences.

The Institute website is at: <http://www.ion.ucl.ac.uk/>.

The Institute of Neurology is a member of the newly formed Faculty of Biomedical Sciences at UCL, and has eight academic departments. These encompass clinical and basic research within each theme: Neurodegenerative Disease; Molecular Neuroscience, incorporating the Reta Lila Weston Institute of Neurological Studies; Clinical and Experimental Epilepsy; Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders; Imaging Neuroscience; Brain Repair and Rehabilitation; Neuroinflammation; and Clinical Neurosciences, Royal Free campus. In parallel there are currently six divisions representing professional affiliations: Clinical Neurology; Neurosurgery; Neurophysiology; Neuropathology; Neuropsychiatry and Neuropsychology; and Neuroradiology and Neurophysics. The Institute employs a total of around 445 staff, occupies some 6,451 sq m of laboratory and office space in five buildings, and has a current annual turnover of £33m.

The Institute receives over £19.1m per annum in grants for research from the principal medical charities concerned with neurological diseases, and from government agencies such as the Medical Research Council. Approximately 19% of the Institute's funding is obtained from the Higher Education Funding Council for England which has awarded high ratings for the Institute in each of the national Research Assessment Exercises since 1986. The Institute currently holds over 250 active grants, supporting research into the causes and treatment of a wide range of neurological diseases, including movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, brain cancer, stroke and brain injury, muscle and nerve disorders, cognitive dysfunction and dementia, and the work of the Institute's clinical academic staff is closely integrated with the Hospital's care of patients. Generous support for research at the Institute of Neurology is provided by the medical charities and especially by the charity, The Brain Research Trust <http://www.brt.org.uk>

In the 2008 RAE IoN performed very strongly. Almost 100 FTE staff were submitted for evaluation, including a number of outstanding early career researchers. Overall 70% of our research was deemed to be internationally competitive, and submitted papers were very highly cited, with an average citation rate over the assessment period of 40 times per paper. Three areas of research were identified as world-leading: Cognitive neuroscience & human brain imaging, Inherited diseases & molecular, cellular and genetic neuroscience, and Neurodegenerative disease. UCL Neuroscience is currently rated second in the world by ISI Essential Science Indicators, and four of the top twelve most highly cited authors working worldwide in neuroscience and behaviour are based at the IoN. In the calendar year 2007 Institute staff published 593 papers, 96 book chapters and 5 books. Twenty-seven papers were published in the top 50 of all scientific journals, including *Science*, *Nature*, *Cell* and *New England Journal of Medicine*. There are seven Fellows of the Royal Society at Queen Square.

A number of important research centres are based at the Institute of Neurology. These include:

- Wellcome Centre for Neuroimaging <http://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/>
- MRC Prion Unit
- MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Disease <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/neuromuscular/>
- Dementia Research Centre <http://www.dementia.ion.ucl.ac.uk/>
- Department of Health Dementias and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network (DENDRON) <http://www.dementia.ion.ucl.ac.uk/>

We share many research programmes with the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, the Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, the Reta Lila Weston Institute, the Royal Free Department of Clinical Neuroscience, the High Field Imaging Laboratory (Department of Engineering and Medical Physics),

and also the neuroscience research groups based in our sister Institutes (Institute of Child Health and Institute of Ophthalmology).

The Institute of Neurology plays a major role in postgraduate teaching and training. There are some 150 graduate students at Queen Square. The Institute runs a number of graduate teaching programmes, including Master's degrees in Clinical Neuroscience, Clinical Neurology and Advanced Neuroimaging. It is also making a major contribution to the new London-Paris MSc in Mind and Brain. We attract excellent graduate students of the highest quality through UCL-wide PhD programmes, including the Wellcome 4-year PhD in Neuroscience <http://www.physiol.ucl.ac.uk/neurosciencephd/>. Institute staff contribute to undergraduate teaching of clinical neurology for the Medical School.

Full details of the Institute's research and teaching activity can be found on the Institute of Neurology website at <http://www.ion.ucl.ac.uk>

CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN NEUROLOGY
NMR Research Unit
Department of Neuroinflammation

The NMR Research Unit & Department of Neuroinflammation

The post is based in the NMR Research Unit and Department of Neuroinflammation. The Department has as its academic focus the mechanisms, diagnosis and prevention of central nervous system (CNS) inflammation. It includes several research groups that are involved in both clinical (translational) and basic neuroscience research and receives grant support from the MS Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Medical Research Council and Wellcome Trust. The research groups are multi-disciplinary in nature, comprising clinicians, physicists, psychologists, radiographers and support staff.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) has a prevalence of 1 in 600-800 making it the most common human CNS inflammatory disease in the UK population. Whilst there has been progress in development of partially effective disease modifying treatments for the prevention of inflammatory lesions and relapses, there is as yet no effective therapy for the progressive and irreversible disability that will eventually affect most people with MS. The MS NMR Unit has been investigating MS for 25 years using MR imaging at standard field strengths (0.5 and 1.5 Tesla) in order to improve diagnosis, understand the pathogenic and pathophysiological mechanisms of the clinical manifestations and course, and to monitor potential disease modifying treatments. A new 3 Tesla MR scanner funded by a grant from the MS Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was installed in 2009. The new scanner and associated hardware and software developments will greatly advance the ability to image and understand the evolving pathology of MS *in vivo*.

The detection and understanding of grey matter abnormalities in MS using advanced imaging techniques is a leading research priority for the NMR Unit. While pathological studies have reported an abundance of grey matter lesions in MS, especially in those with a progressive course, it has hitherto been difficult to image these abnormalities during life. The MS Society has provided funds to study the functional (neurological and cognitive) consequences of grey matter abnormalities observed in MS using the new 3T scanner and advanced imaging technology. The post holder will join a dynamic research team and investigate the grey matter in MS using innovative, high resolution and quantitative MR measures.

In addition, the development of effective new disease modifying treatments is a major focus of current MS research because of the potential to stabilise or even reverse effects of the disease. Part of the research work in the NMR Unit involves the centralised analysis of MRI scans obtained during multicentre clinical trials of potential new disease modifying treatments for MS. Evaluation of scans provides objective assessment of the evolution of MS and the effect of treatment. One trial currently underway, funded by Novartis, is studying MRI outcome measures in primary progressive MS; these include lesion load and activity, quantitative measures of tissue volume changes in the brain and spinal cord, and a quantitative measure of magnetisation transfer ratio in the brain.

The purpose of the post is:

- to undertake quantitative magnetic resonance (MR) research studies of the grey matter in MS and to perform MRI analysis of multi-centre trials in the MS NMR Research Unit
- to undertake research with the intention to achieve a higher degree (PhD)
- to participate in the clinical activities of the RDN (an honorary clinical contract will be obtained from the UCLH NHS Foundation Trust).
- to give ad-hoc basis lectures and teaching sessions to internal and external groups.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Clinical

- 1.1 To conduct clinical research using MR techniques to study multiple sclerosis.
- 1.2 To assist with a weekly out-patient clinic.

2. Research and Teaching

- 2.1 To contribute to quantitative magnetic resonance (MR) analysis in the Multiple Sclerosis NMR Research Unit both as lead investigator and also as a collaborator with other members of the Unit and Department.
- 2.2 To provide ad-hoc teaching for doctors, nurses, medical students, other health care professionals and external organisations in both formal and informal settings.
- 2.3 To contribute to the Department's multidisciplinary research projects within the strategy of multiple sclerosis research
- 2.4 To assist in the development of the multiple sclerosis research programme, promoting on-going studies, monitoring recruitment rates and encouraging referrals.

3. Quality Assurance

- 3.1 To contribute to the development of standards for the total multiple sclerosis service, and participate in the audit process.
- 3.2 To contribute to and provide medical input to the multi-professional clinical audit of multiple sclerosis services.

4. Management

- 4.1 To act as an independent agent in setting up appointments, dealing with referrals and telephone calls and in the general co-ordination of arrangements for patients/carers.
- 4.2 To ensure the highest standard of record keeping, maintaining accurate and appropriate patient records, including the strict confidentiality of all records.
- 4.3 To attend Departmental and other meetings as appropriate.

5. Professional

- 5.1 To act at all times in accordance with the highest professional standards, and to ensure that these are maintained in the delivery of all aspects of patient care.
- 5.2 To ensure that s/he is covered, at all times, by appropriate medical indemnity.

6. General

- 6.1 As duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the postholder.
- 6.2 The postholder will carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the line manager.
- 6.3 The postholder will actively follow and promote UCL policies including Equal Opportunities policies.
- 6.4 The postholder will maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations.

Person Specification

Essential Criteria:

- be medically qualified and hold GMC Registration;
- hold the MRCP (or equivalent qualification);
- have completed, or shortly will have completed, a rotation in Neurology at SHO or, preferably, SpR level;
- intend to pursue a career in clinical neurology;
- intend to register for a higher degree (PhD) based on the work performed in the post;
- have a sound understanding of the use of MRI in neurological disease
- have excellent inter-personal skills with an ability to work co-operatively in a multidisciplinary setting;
- have excellent organisational and IT skills;
- have the ability to act independently;
- have a very high level of consideration and care for patients and research subjects.

Appointment: The post is available immediately and is funded for three years in the first instance. It is offered subject to the receipt of satisfactory references, completion of a nine-month probationary period and health clearance by the Occupational Health Department.

Salary: Starting salary will be in the range £30,992 - £39,300 pa on the CL7 scale; London Allowance of £2,795 pa is also payable. The post is superannuable under the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS) or, subject to eligibility, the National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (NHSSS).

Responsible to: Professor David Miller, Professor in Clinical Neurology in the NMR Research Unit, Department of Neuroinflammation (d.miller@ion.ucl.ac.uk).

Annual Leave: 33 days per annum

Hours of Work: 36.5 per week

It would be helpful if applicants could provide a telephone number that they could be contacted on during office hours.

Applications:

You should apply for this post through [UCL's online recruitment](#) using ref: 1146578 where you can download a job description and person specification.

For queries relating to the application process please contact Samantha Robinson, Personnel Officer, Institute of Neurology, 23 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG (email: personnel@ion.ucl.ac.uk).

Closing date: 2 August 2010

Informal enquiries to Prof David Miller (020 7829 8771 or d.miller@ion.ucl.ac.uk) or Dr Declan Chard (020 7829 8771 or d.chard@ion.ucl.ac.uk).

Please note: Where applicants are shortlisted for formal interview, references will normally be taken up prior to interview. Applicants who do not wish any referees to be so contacted should make this explicitly clear beside the referees' contact details.

UCL

To be completed by all those submitting a CV in application for a post with UCL. Our equal opportunities policy includes the provision that in recruitment, the only consideration must be that the individual meets or is likely to meet the genuine requirements of the job. No one will be discriminated against on the basis of gender, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation, caring or parental responsibilities, or belief on any matters including religion and politics. Please complete this form in black ink/biro or by typing or an audio cassette.

Application for the position of:

Department: **Institute of Neurology**

Ref No or Job Code: **Clin Res Assoc (DHM)**

Surname:

Title:

Other Name(s):

Preferred Forename:

Address:

Telephone numbers and email address at which we may contact you

Work tel:

Home tel:

Email:

Do you require permission/a Certificate of Sponsorship to take up employment in the UK? Yes/No (Immigration Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 and UK Border Agency Immigration rules – see Border Agency website <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier2/>)

I confirm that I will provide the relevant documentation should I be invited to interview.

Do you need to register under the Home Office EU Accession State Worker Registration Scheme? (For further information, see: http://www.workingintheuk.gov.uk/working_in_the_uk/en/homepage/schemes_and_programmes/worker_registration.html) Yes/No

Are you a Bulgarian or Romanian National?

Yes/No

(See <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/eea/bulgariaromania/> for more information)

Have you any unspent criminal convictions in line with the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (see information overleaf)? If so, please specify below or on a separate sheet. Appointment to certain posts, as stated in the advertisement and job pack, is subject to a criminal record check. By signing the Declaration you accept that the organisation will seek information from the Criminal Records Bureau and any associated special lists, where we have stated it is necessary to do so.

If employed, how many days sick leave have you had in the last 24 months?

Are you are 64 or over?

Yes/No

It is UCL policy that staff normally retire on the 31st July following their 65th birthday. In line with this UCL will not normally employ someone who is within six months of that date.

(See <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/retirement.php> for more information)

Do you have a Personal Relationship with any member of staff/student at UCL?

Yes/No

(See http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/personal_relationships.php for more details)

If so, please give details:

To the best of my knowledge the answers given to the questions contained above and all statements made are true and accurate. I understand that any falsification may be considered sufficient cause for rejection or, if employed, dismissal.

I give my consent to UCL to process sensitive data for the purposes of personnel administration. My consent is conditional upon UCL complying with the obligations and duties under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Signature of applicant:

Date:

REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT 1974

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 is intended to ensure that a person convicted of a criminal offence (whether in Great Britain or abroad), not involving a sentence of more than 2.5 years' imprisonment who has not since re-offended for a specified period of time (a rehabilitation period) related to the severity of their sentence is treated as if the offence, conviction and sentence had never occurred. Sentences of more than 2.5 years put an individual concerned outside the scope of the Act. Such convictions can never therefore become spent.

(Exceptions) (Amendment) order 1986

Exempted professions NOT covered by The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 are:-

- Medical practitioner
- Barrister (in England and Wales), advocate (in Scotland), solicitor
- Chartered accountant, certified accountant
- Dentist, dental hygienist, dental auxiliary
- Veterinary surgeon
- Nurse, midwife
- Ophthalmic optician, dispensing optician
- Pharmaceutical chemist
- Registered teacher (in Scotland)
- Any profession to which the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act 1960 applies and which is undertaken following registration under the Act.

