

**Langford Veterinary Services Ltd**

**Job Description**

Job Title: Microbiology Laboratory Scientist

Reports To: Diagnostic Laboratories Business and Technical Manager

**Job Purpose**

A full-time scientific role working in the Microbiology section of the Diagnostic Laboratories. To provide a comprehensive, accurate, efficient and reliable Microbiology diagnostic service for internal and external customers. To contribute to research projects and support teaching staff at Langford Vets.

**Responsibilities**

- To process samples submitted for Microbiological analysis including, for example, Bacteriology, Parasitology, Dermatology and Feline Virology, leading to provision of accurate results to clinicians and research workers.
- To organise the daily workload to ensure prioritisation of critical cases including notification and discussion of results with clinicians to ensure provision of a reliable service, be a part of the Saturday rota
- To operate equipment, for example: Vitek2
- To maintain (daily/weekly/monthly etc.) and calibrate equipment to ensure compliance with manufacturer's guidelines.
- To liaise with instrument manufacturers, help desks/engineers in troubleshooting technical problems with instruments.
- To monitor and manage the stock levels of calibrators, controls, reagents and consumables, at all times, in order to ensure the smooth running of the service. This is to include ensuring reagents, calibrators, controls etc. are within expiry dates and that calibrator, control etc. details and values are updated when batches change.
- To ensure adequate stocks of calibrators, controls, kits, reagents and consumables etc are maintained at all times.
- To maintain an up to date price list of consumables (kits, reagents, calibrators, controls etc.).
- To prepare an accurate monthly stock take in a timely manner.
- To perform specialised diagnostic tests, as and when required.
- To use the LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) for inputting, processing and reporting of results.
- To write and maintain Standard Operating Procedures and Risk Assessments.

- To participate in the development, validation and clinical evaluation of new techniques or tests for use in the laboratory, in order to increase the width and breadth of the diagnostic service provided.
- To package and send requests to external laboratories (checking the integrity of the samples and forms), for investigations and further analysis; subsequently entering the results into the computer system and reporting to requesting clinicians.
- To participate in research projects under the guidance of the Diagnostic Laboratories Business and Technical Manager and Diagnostic Laboratories Lead, as and when required.
- To comply with health and safety regulations and risk assessments; also following good laboratory practice and procedures for the safe disposal of hazardous waste.
- To undertake any other duties according to need and as deemed to be appropriate.

## Person Specification

The skills, abilities, experience and knowledge outlined below provide a summary of what is required to carry out this job effectively.

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific background, laboratory experience in a biomedical environment.</li> <li>• Excellent organisational and decision-making skills and attention to detail.</li> <li>• Ability to work alone and as part of a team.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working in a clinical diagnostic laboratory.</li> <li>• Good computer skills for processing data and reporting results.</li> <li>• Familiarity with medically important pathogens</li> <li>• Familiarity with external Quality Assurance schemes</li> </ul>

### Relevant qualifications

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educated to HNC/degree level in biological science, or equivalent</li> <li>• Practical experience in veterinary/medical Microbiology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical experience in veterinary/medical Parasitology</li> </ul>

### Communications and interpersonal skills

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent written &amp; verbal communication skills</li> <li>• Ability to liaise with staff and clients at all levels.</li> <li>• Accuracy and attention to detail</li> <li>• Flexible approach to work</li> <li>• Eligibility to work in the UK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deal with queries on technical matters and reporting results</li> <li>• Troubleshooting technical and equipment problems</li> <li>• Interest in advancing own qualifications</li> </ul>