



Division of Gastroenterology, University of Alberta,
130 University Campus NW, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2X8, Canada

September 6, 2022

RE Job Posting - Research Associate for FMT program

The University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology is a multidisciplinary clinical facility dedicated solely to gastroenterology patient care and research. Located in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, the Faculty has been internationally recognized as among the world's top 50 medical schools and as one of Canada's premier health-education institutions. The University is currently home to 39,000 students and 15,000 faculty and staff.

The Edmonton Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT) clinical and research program at the University of Alberta is seeking a **Research Associate** to join a dynamic team, consisting of physicians, research nurses, laboratory technicians and administrative support staff. The team conducts multiple clinical and translational research projects, and is engaged with international and national collaborators and networks. Our research activities are supported by tri-agency funding agencies, industry clinical trials and international collaboration grants. The Edmonton FMT program is one of the few labs in Canada that manufacture FMT product for the treatment of recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infection. The Edmonton FMT program is led by Dr. Dina Kao and Dr. Karen Wong.

POSITION SUMMARY

This position involves working closely with clinician researchers and our laboratory technicians on the design of experiments, data analysis and interpretation, grant applications and publications specific to the gut microbiota, GI infections, pathobionts and antimicrobial resistance testing. The ideal candidate will have a passion for human biotherapies including FMT, the host-microbe interactions with *C. difficile* infection and experience in probiotics, parabiotics and postbiotics research in GI diseases, especially application of next-generation probiotic strains and their by-products as novel therapeutics.

DUTIES

- Leads projects in collaboration with other local/national/international co-investigators
- Designs and conducts complex scientific research specifically as it relates to microbiome under the direction of the Principal Investigator

College of Health Sciences
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Department of Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology

University of Alberta Hospital

Daniel C. Baumgart, MD PhD (Division Director)
Levinus A Dieleman, MD PhD
Lillian Du, MD (Locum)
Brendan Halloran, MD
Frank Hoentjen, MD PhD
Dina H J Kao, MD MSc (Site Chief)
Karen I Kroeker, MD MSc
Adriana Lazarescu, MD
Mahmod Mohamed, MBBS
Jan-Erik Nilsson, MD
Farhad Peerani, MD
Gurpal S Sandha, MBBS
Richard Sultanian, MD MSc
Jeremy Theal, MD
Sander Veldhuyzen van Zanten, MD MSc PhD
Shawn Wasilenko, MD PhD
Karen Wong, MD
Sergio Zepeda-Gomez, MD
Hepatology
Vincent G Bain, MD
Rahima Bhanji, MD
Juan Gonzalez-Abraldes, MD
Constantine J Karvellas, MD MSc
Mang M Ma, MD
Andrew L Mason, MBBS
Aldo Montano-Loza, MD
Puneeta Tandon, MD
Malcolm Wells, MD
Public Health / Basic Science
Karen J Goodman, PhD
Karen Madsen, PhD

Royal Alexandra Hospital

Lana Bistriz, MD
ThucNhi Tran Dang, MD
James P Ferguson, MD
Leah M Gramlich, MD
Jennifer Jin, MD
Melissa Johnson, MD
Greg Lutzak, MD
Kata Matic, MD
Jill McDermid, MD (Site Chief)
Amy Morse, MD
Daniel C Sadowski, MD
Dennis N Todoruk, MD
Clarence K W Wong, MD
Hepatology
Robert J Bailey, MD
Marilyn Zeman, MD

Misericordia Hospital

Allen Lim, MD
Melanie Pinchbeck, MD
Lori M Stead, MD, PhD
Brennan Walters, MD (Site Chief)

Grey Nuns Hospital

Anand Bala, MD
Shaalan Siffledeen, MD MSc (Site Chief)
Connie M Switzer, MD
Hepatology
Vijey Selvarajah, MD
Stephen Ip, MD

Sturgeon Hospital

Naseem Hoque, MD (Site Chief)
Mandeep Sandhu, MD

- Collects, analyzes and interprets data
- Sets research activity objectives in consultation with the Principal Investigator
- In consultation with the Principal Investigator, develops and documents research methods and protocols
- Presents research results at laboratory meetings, departmental seminars, scientific conferences, and related settings
- Participates in the scientific oversight of projects

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in clinical and microbiome related research
- 5-10 years experience in clinical and microbiome related research
- Proven accomplishments in health science and microbiome related research
- Strong record of publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals
- Significant experience with SPSS, SAS or equivalent statistical analysis software
- Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, organizational and time management skills
- Working knowledge and experience of *C. difficile* infection, recurrent *C. difficile* infection and fecal microbiota transplantation

Thorough knowledge of the use and preparation of culture media, chemicals, reagents, and the ability to perform a variety of laboratory procedures

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience with *C. difficile* growth, isolation, ribotyping and its phenotypic and genotypic antimicrobial resistance testing
- Experience and working knowledge in inflammatory bowel disease and its host-microbe interactions with *C. difficile* infection, other pathobionts, and gut microbiota
- Background and experience in probiotics, paraprobiotics and postbiotics research in GI diseases, especially application of next-generation probiotic strains and their by-products as novel therapeutics

Experience with biosafety measures, general molecular biology techniques (primer design, cloning, DNA analysis, PCR, qRT-PCR, gene expression, etc), immunoassays (ELISA, Western blot, flow cytometry), cell culture, and microscopy techniques

Interested candidates can apply for directly via the University of Alberta Careers page <https://careers.ualberta.ca/Competition/A104448563/>

For questions or inquiries, please email Thomas Prince tprince1@ualberta.ca
Please be sure to include Hiring Competition A104448563 in the subject line.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adriana Lazarescu, MD FRCPC
Associate Professor of Medicine