

Role Description

Director of BactiVac, the Bacterial Vaccines Network

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Leadership of BactiVac, serving as the figurehead and focus for the Network
- Direction, setting strategy and overall trajectory of BactiVac Network aligned with mission to accelerate the research and development of vaccines against bacterial infections relevant to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)
- Oversee ongoing growth and maturation of Network
- Prepare grant applications to secure ongoing funding for Network, and ensure delivery against funded grant objectives
- Advocate for the development of bacterial vaccines nationally & internationally
- Engage with academia, industry and policymakers, and like-minded institutions, bodies and networks in advancing bacterial vaccines
- Represent the BactiVac Network at internal and external meetings, and to external partners
- Play lead role in reviewing Catalyst Project and Training Award applications and reports
- Play lead role in BactiVac Annual Network Meeting
- Establish monitoring frameworks to assess Network progress and impact
- Keep University of Birmingham (UoB), Network Management Oversight Board, Advisory Board and Funders informed regarding BactiVac progress & developments, ensuring optimal governance
- Lead efforts to publish and share findings and innovations to advance bacterial vaccine development

Internal interactions

- Work closely with Co-Director, Operations Manager & Operations Management Group to deliver mission of BactiVac
- Chair Network Management Oversight Board and Operations Management Group
- Hold monthly meetings with Operations Management Group
- Hold weekly meetings with Operations team

Accountability

- Accountable to the UoB and BactiVac funders

Commitments

- Time commitment: Expected to be 4 days a month on average, noting that this will include periods of intense activity (e.g. around major meetings, catalyst project funding rounds or large grant applications)
- Frequency of visits to UoB – the postholder would be expected to visit in-person at least 3 times a year, if not based at UoB, to support engagement with the BactiVac operational team and local academic and professional teams contributing to the ongoing development of the network and related research initiatives

Term of Office

- This is an unpaid, honorary role with the University for a term of up to 5 years

Benefits

- Honorary position at UoB, with possibility of this being an Honorary Chair position
- Travel and subsistence expenses incurred for attendance at Annual Network Meeting and national/international meetings on behalf of BactiVac will be reimbursed

Required Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications, ExperienceEssential

- PhD/MD in a scientific/vaccine-related area with post-doctorate – or equivalent experience in a comparable and relevant setting
- Experience of and proven commitment to vaccine development
- Proven and demonstrable leadership skills, with the ability to set and drive strategy, leading successful teams in academia and/or industry, including a successful track record in leading funding applications and managing funding awards
- Driving and engaging with research relevant to LMICs and global health, with extensive personal network in vaccinology across academia, industry, policymaker and funder sectors, in HICs and LMICs
- Significant experience of working closely with industry
- Excellent communication and public speaking skills
- Excellent organisational and management skills
- Proven track-record of scientific publications
- Proven track-record of supporting and engaging with early-stage researchers, from LMICs and HICs

Desirable

- Medical or veterinary degree
- Experience of running clinical trials, ideally with vaccines
- Experience of working directly in LMIC settings
- Experience of working in One Health across human and veterinary bacterial diseases
- Knowledge of vaccine regulation

Useful Links:

www.birmingham.ac.uk/bactivac

[About the University of Birmingham - University of Birmingham](#)

[College of Medicine and Health - University of Birmingham](#)

[School of Infection, Inflammation and Immunology - University of Birmingham](#)