

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity plan

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

**RESEARCH LABORATORY ASSISTANT X 1
(5 months) Fixed-Term appointment)
DIABETES AND ENDOCRINOLOGY
SCHOOL OF CLINICAL MEDICINE MEDICAL
SCHOOL CAMPUS**

REF NO.: T/CM08/2025

The Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology is seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to fill the position of Research Laboratory Assistant for the DISCOVER ME-SOUTH AFRICA (DMSA) study, through a partnership between University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital (IALCH) / Department of Health (DOH) and Omnigen Biodata Limited, UK.

The aim of the study is to create a dynamic resource of demographic, health and genetic data to understand clinical disease progression and informed risk prediction. The study will enroll up to 100,000 participants (patients) attending IALCH over a twoyear period, and integrate their electronic health record (EHR) with genetic data. The incumbent will be based in Durban, at IALCH and Medical school Campus.

We are looking for a responsible and detail-orientated lab assistant to join our growing team. As the lab assistant, you will work with our senior staff to process research samples for storage, appropriately log these samples and maintain all relevant records. The successful candidate must understand the importance of maintaining a clean workspace by following all lab regulations for health and safety.

In addition to having strong attention to detail, you must be responsible and demonstrate excellent communication skills.

Responsibilities:

- Centrifugation and preanalytical processing of study samples including aliquoting and use of pipettes.
- Preparation of samples for storage including printing and application of labels.
- Classify and labelling samples
- Logging of study samples received using lab data management system
- Storage of study samples as per the research protocol using the lab data management systems
- Maintain all laboratory records.
- Comply with the correct procedures, policies, and health and safety regulations.
- Clean and decontaminate equipment and work area.
- Collect and prepare research and information as needed for studies
- Undertake basic administrative tasks such as filing.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in medical technology, biology or relevant field or laboratory assistants' certificate from a recognized training laboratory in South Africa
- 2 years experience in a similar role
- Computer Literate

Essential Requirements

- Strong attention to detail.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

This post reports to the Senior Study Coordinator. Enquiries and job profile regarding this post may be directed to Ms Pumla Mbatha via email- MbathaZ2@ukzn.ac.za.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 06/07/2025.

During the first three months of your employment we will assess your suitability for the role. During this period if you are unsuitable for the role, we reserve the right to end your employment with one week's notice.

The University reserves the right not to make any appointment.

Applicants are required to complete the relevant application form which is available on the Vacancies website at www.ukzn.ac.za. Completed forms may be sent to MbathaZ2@ukzn.ac.za

The Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the email subject line.