

# CONSULTANT IMMUNOLOGIST (TYPE B)

## Job Description

**Mater Misericordiae University Hospital 32 Hours**

**Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar 7 Hours**

**Title: Consultant Immunologist**

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### Overview of the Role

#### **Mater Misericordiae University Hospital**

The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH) is a 600 bed multidisciplinary academic teaching hospital located in central Dublin that provides comprehensive medical and surgical services for adult patients in the surrounding catchment region. It is the national tertiary referral centre for the management of spinal injuries and cardiothoracic surgery, including heart and lung transplantation. It is a designated cancer centre and has regional gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, neurology and dermatology services.

The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is part of the Ireland East Hospital Group.

The Immunology Department at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is currently staffed by a temporary Consultant Clinical Immunologist (0.33 WTE) and provides clinical governance to both the Mater and Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. Due to the significant deficiency in the existing services this new post will facilitate an Immunology clinic on MMUH site and enhance existing relations between the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine services within the Dublin North area within the Ireland East network of hospitals. The deficiency in service has been noted by the diagnostic laboratory accreditation body, Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB).

The Department has an academic attachment to University College Dublin and there is a major commitment to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research, which is strongly encouraged. Teaching/training of scientific and medical staff is supported and encouraged.

The Immunology Department at MMUH provides a regional service to other hospitals including the Children's University Hospital at Temple St, St Vincent's University hospital, RH Mullingar, the Mater Private and all GPs and nursing homes within the catchment area.

This department offers a comprehensive range of Immunology tests that investigates the body's immune response to diseases e.g. lymphocyte subset evaluation, Calprotectin analysis, Direct Immunofluorescence of Skin biopsies for MMUH, Mater Private Hospital and Midland Regional Hospital Dermatology, specialised protein investigation, serum and protein electrophoresis, coeliac disease, connective tissue disease, allergy testing and auto-immune disease investigations.

The laboratory is compliant with ISO 15189:2012 'Medical Laboratories – requirements for Quality and Competence' and is committed to providing the highest quality of service.

The department processed 289,400 tests in 2020 and has a staff of 10 WTE positions.

#### **Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar**

**MRH, Mullingar** provides healthcare and social services for more than 125,000 people in Westmeath and Longford and specialised services to a wider population of 283,000 including Laois/Offaly and the surrounding areas. MRH, Mullingar has 206 beds and currently employs circa 750 staff.

It provides the following range of services on a 24 hourly basis: -

- *Emergency Medicine*
- *General Medicine (subspecialties including Gastroenterology, Gerontology, Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, Cardiology, Diabetes and Endocrinology)*
- *General Surgery*
- *Intensive Care / Coronary Care Unit*
- *Obstetrics & Gynaecology*
- *Paediatrics (including Special Care Baby Unit)*
- *Out-Patient Services (including Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Orthopaedics)*
- *Sexual Assault Treatment Unit / Sexually Transmitted Infections Clinic*

The Hospital also provides diagnostic Radiological and Pathology services as well as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy, Dietetics, Cardiac Diagnostic and Rehabilitation Services, Pulmonary Function Laboratory and Respiratory Services. The Hospital is the designated Regional Stroke Centre for the Midland Area.

The Immunology Department Regional Hospital Mullingar provides a regional service to RH Mullingar, MRH Tullamore, MRH Portlaoise and all GPs and nursing homes in Longford/Westmeath/Laois/Offaly area. This department offers a comprehensive range of Immunology tests that investigates the body's immune response to diseases e.g. specialised protein investigation, serum and protein electrophoresis, coeliac disease, allergy testing and auto-immune disease investigations.

The laboratory is compliant with ISO 15189:2012 'Medical Laboratories – requirements for Quality and Competence' and is committed to providing the highest quality of service. It has also been awarded flexible scope status in April 2017.

The department processed 39,192 samples in 2016 (158,349 tests). And has 5 staff members. Clinical Advisory support is currently provided by Prof Conleth Feighery on a contractual basis. RH, Mullingar is a teaching laboratory and has well established links with Galway Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT) and Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT).

## **Duties of the Post**

The new appointee will lead the professional organisation and management of a comprehensive Immunology service at MMUH and MRH, Mullingar to reflect both hospitals commitment to patient focused care and high quality. They will also be responsible for identifying and implementing operational processes to the standard of best practice in order to optimize use of resources. In particular, the new post holder will take a lead role in enhancing and supporting services at the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar and establishing collaborations and networks between Mullingar, Mater University and other network partner hospitals.

The main duties and responsibilities are outlined as follows:

### **1 Scientific/Laboratory**

- Provide clinical and scientific leadership, including, supervision of laboratory developments, review of diagnostic methods, authorisation, interpretation and communication of results;
- Participate in laboratory accreditation processes;
- Oversee the performance of intricate scientific work and interpret complex clinical information;
- Oversee the implementation and development of specialised laboratory services;

## **2 Other main duties of the post will include**

The person appointed will:

- Assume direction of the Immunology service within both MMUH and the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar Pathology departments.
- Interact with clinical colleagues in the investigation of in-patients and external patients of both hospitals.
- Administer both laboratories under his/her direction in consultation with the Chief Medical Scientist in each.
- Be a member of the Consultant team within the Department of Pathology at both the MMUH and MRHM and participate in the running of both Departments.
- Be responsible for the procedural analyses, their reporting and the quality control of the laboratories under his/her direction.
- Comply with the requirements of the relevant EU Directives and ISO 15189.
- Provide a clinical advisory and interpretative service to the Immunology Laboratory, and Clinical staff of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar.
- To provide an expert Consultant clinical advisory service to users of both Immunology Laboratories. The provision of clinical advice will include guidance on interpretation of results and the selection of tests to aid diagnosis and treatment of patients.
- To be involved in the recruitment and training of staff at both Immunology laboratories.
- To actively lead the implementation and maintenance of the quality management system.
- Be responsible, with hospital administration, for the appointment of medical scientist staff in the laboratories under his/her control.
- Assume responsibility for training of junior medical staff assigned to the section.
- Be responsible for research and development in the laboratory under his/her direction.
- Be responsible to the hospital management for all matters concerning the laboratory under his/her direction.
- Be involved in both hospitals' teaching programmes and be prepared to undertake ward-rounds and conferences in co-operation with clinical staff.
- Assume responsibility for the implementation of quality standards e.g. ISO 15189 and relevant EU Directives.
- Establish an outpatient service for patients attending the MMUH. This will consist of a weekly OPD clinic and provision of care for patients attending a day care clinic. It is anticipated that the main clinical focus will include Allergy, Immunodeficiency and some Connective tissue disorders.

## **3 Particulars of Post**

- This is a **Type B** post and will be based at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar. The following conditions apply:-
- The appointment is permanent and of a full-time nature.
- The person appointed shall be on probation for one year.
- The terms, conditions and benefits of the Consultant Contract 2008, approved by the Department of Health and Children will apply.
- Annual leave will be in accordance with the Consultants Contract 2008. It will be necessary to ensure that this leave is taken so that, on receipt of notification, the Administrative Head of the Department/Specialty may make appropriate cover and other arrangements.

- This post has a teaching association with University College Dublin.
- Acceptance of the Management structure of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar,, as detailed in the rules of the hospitals, is necessary.
- The person appointed shall abide by the Ethical Policy approved by the Boards of the Management of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar Hospital.
- All applications for special leave shall, in addition, be forwarded to the Executive Councils of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar for consideration. No special leave may be taken without the prior approval of the Executive Councils of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar.
- In the event of resignation a minimum of three months' notice must be given in writing to the authorities of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and the Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar.
- The scheduled commitment in respect of this post is as follows:-
 

<b>Mater Misericordiae University Hospital</b>	-	<b>32 hours</b>
<b>Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar</b>	-	<b>7 hours</b>
- Remuneration shall be at **Type B** level in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Consultant Contract 2008.
- Garda Clearance – Arrangements have been introduced on a national level, for the provision of Garda Clearance in respect of candidates for employment in areas of Health Services where it is envisaged that potential employees have substantial access to children or vulnerable individuals.

#### **4 Accountable to / Reporting Relationship**

The consultant's reporting relationship and accountability for the discharge of his/her contract is to the Chief Executive through his/her Clinical Director of Pathology / Hospital Clinical Director (Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar).

#### **5 Qualifications**

The following qualifications are required:

##### ***Professional Qualifications***

Registration as a specialist in the Specialist Division of the Register of Medical Practitioners maintained by the Medical Council in Ireland in the specialty of immunology (clinical and laboratory).

##### ***Age***

Age restriction shall only apply to a candidate where he/she is not classified as a new entrant (within the meaning of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2004). A candidate who is not classified as a new entrant must be under 65 years of age on the first day of the month in which the latest date for receiving completed application forms for the office occurs.

##### ***Health***

A candidate for and any person holding the post must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the post and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

### **Character**

A candidate for and any person holding the post must be of good character.

### **Entry to competition/recruitment process**

For the purposes of eligibility for entry to any competition or recruitment process associated with this post, a candidate cannot be appointed as a Medical Consultant unless (s)he is registered as a Specialist in the Specialist Division of the Register of Medical Practitioners maintained by the Medical Council of Ireland. Successful candidate must be registered as a Specialist in the relevant specialty on the Specialist Division of the Register of Medical Practitioners maintained by the Medical Council of Ireland within 180 days of the day of interview. Should the successful candidate not be registered as a Specialist at that time, the post may be offered to the next suitable candidate (or, in the case of HSE posts, the Public Appointments Service may choose not to recommend that candidate to the employer). Should no suitable candidate exist, a further recruitment process may be initiated.

## **6 Application**

1. Curriculum Vitae (four unbound copies) including particulars regarding qualifications, publications etc. should be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary, Medical Board, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, 59 Eccles Street, Dublin 7 not later than **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.**
2. Each candidate shall submit, as references, the names, addresses and e-mail contact details of at least three responsible persons to whom he/she is well known, but not related, of which, at least, two shall be from a recent or current employer.
3. Canvassing directly or indirectly by or on behalf of any candidate will automatically disqualify such candidate.
4. Copies of professional and education certificates should be submitted with curriculum vitae. Originals of these documents will be required at interview.
5. Candidates will be required to attend in person before an interview board established by the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. The Board will not be responsible for any expenses a candidate may incur in attendance for interview.

**Note:** *The extent and speed of change in the delivery of health care is such that adaptability is essential at this level of management. The incumbent will be required to maintain, enhance and develop their professional knowledge, skills and aptitudes necessary to respond to a changing situation. The Job Description must be regarded as an outline of the major areas of accountability at the present time, which will be reviewed and assessed on an on-going basis.*