



NEUROPATHOLOGIST - VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA), NATIONAL CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGICAL RESEARCH (NCTR)

Position: Staff Fellow (Neuropathologist), NCTR/Division of Neurotoxicology

Series: This position will be filled in the biological sciences occupational series under Title 42 U.S.C. 209(g)

Location: Jefferson, Arkansas

Opening Date: TBD

Closing Date: Position will remain open until filled

Salary Range: Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

Area of Consideration: All U.S. Citizens or eligible foreign nationals

Special Notes: This position will be filled as a Title 42 209 (g) appointment. This is an Excepted Service position under Title 42. This appointment does not confer any entitlement to a position in the competitive service and no entitlement to Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) appeal rights.

Duties/Responsibilities: This position is available with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, FDA, NCTR, Division of Neurotoxicology. More information about the NCTR can be found here:
<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/office-chief-scientist/national-center-toxicological-research>

This position will serve as a principal scientist working in the Division's neurohistological laboratory and will be responsible for designing and conducting neurotoxicological research studies for which they are Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator. The candidate's research will be focused on the assessment of the potential neurotoxicity of FDA-regulated products in the central (CNS) and peripheral nervous systems (PNS), the exploration of the underlying mechanisms, and addressing the clinical relevance of the laboratory findings as well as pursuing neuroprotective strategies. The studies will be conducted primarily using in vitro and in vivo models.

The candidate will construct hypotheses based on their knowledge of the neurotoxicological literature and the Agency's needs. They will design, plan and execute appropriate experiments to test those hypotheses. Those experiments directly address issues of importance to the Agency. To implement these efforts, established, new and/or improved techniques are applied for the high throughput detection and automated quantification of anatomical, neuropathological, and histological endpoints in the CNS and/or PNS. The candidate advises and provides consultation to technical and other scientific personnel in the conduct of highly specialized techniques including, but not limited to, neurohistological and neuropathological assessments.

The candidate is responsible for disseminating findings of their studies to the FDA, other governmental institutions, and academia through publications in quality peer-reviewed scientific journals and presentations at scientific meetings. The candidate will provide guidance and collaborate with other scientists on the development and implementation of those techniques and will also:

- Assist in training members of the laboratory in new techniques and methodologies,
- Analyze data, interpret results, and prepare manuscripts based on experimental findings,
- Prepare and present laboratory findings within the Center, Agency, and at national and international conferences,
- Critically review manuscripts for other scientists within the Center and for the editorial boards of scientific journals,
- Maintain current knowledge of research and developments specifically related to regulatory research.

Desired Qualifications: The ideal candidate must be knowledgeable in a variety of cellular and molecular biological, immunological, and computer-image analytical techniques. Specific research skills that are desired: a proven record of neuropathological assessment (using in vivo and in vitro methods), assessment of neuroanatomy with routine staining (H&E, etc.), immunohistochemistry (light, fluorescence, and confocal microscopy experience) and in situ hybridization for the localization of mRNA in brain tissue. Knowledge of electron microscopy is preferred.

The candidate must have a doctoral-level degree from an accredited institution.

Conditions of Employment: Ethics Requirements: This position is subject to strict prohibited financial interest regulations which could restrict the type of financial interest (stock holdings) for the employee, the spouse, and minor children of the employee. Selectee for this position will be required to file a Confidential Disclosure Report (OGE 450) and may require the selectee to obtain clearance from the FDA Division of Ethics and Integrity before a final offer can be made. For additional information on the prohibited financial interests, please visit the FDA Ethics and Integrity Office website at <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/WorkingatFDA/Ethics/default.htm>.

Application Procedures:

Candidates must submit a CV, a brief statement of interest, and two letters of recommendation to:

Sherry Ferguson, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Neurotoxicology
FDA/NCTR/DNT, Building 50, Room 141
3900 NCTR Rd.
Jefferson, AR 72079
Email: sherry.ferguson@fda.hhs.gov