



**UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN
JOB DESCRIPTION**

JOB TITLE	Veterinary Research Associate				
DEPARTMENT	School of Life and Environmental Sciences				
LOCATION	Lincoln Campuses				
JOB NUMBER	CHS204	GRADE	Grade 7	DATE	April 2025
REPORTS TO	Daniel Mills				

CONTEXT

The post holder will be based in the Department of Life Sciences to work on evaluating a supplement designed to help dogs suffering from certain forms of anxiety. An understanding of the inter-dependencies of health and behaviour is critical to the role.

JOB PURPOSE

The Veterinary Research Associate is responsible for the management of cases relating to this project, and related duties as directed by the Principal Investigator. They are expected to operate with a significant degree of autonomy, but must work within the restrictions of the Veterinary Surgeons Act in accordance with their qualifications. They are not expected to operate as an independent researcher. The position requires the reporting of data in the form of a prospective case series.

The post holder will need to be able to work independently on their own project, but also as part of the wider clinical behaviour team at the University.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Literature Surveys

Undertake literature reviews, especially relating to problem behaviour and animal health and other investigations of the state-of-the-art, and prepare reports or manuscripts for publication as required.

Programme of Research

Undertake the programme of clinical research described below under the direction of the Principal Investigator, demonstrating a significant level of autonomy. Although, a formal research qualification is not essential as this work takes the form of a case series, you will need a good understanding of the requirements for undertaking and reporting case-based research.

Given the nature of the research, you will need to be a veterinarian with an understanding of the gut-brain axis, able to work on their own project, but also as part of the wider clinical behaviour team. Specifically, the role will require you to take the lead in helping to recruit and manage a series of cases relating to the effects of a probiotic on dogs with anxiety, especially those also showing physical signs such as gastro-intestinal disturbance associated with the anxiety. You will need to be highly organised and to have excellent interpersonal skills, as you will need to liaise with owners and vets as part of our clinical team. You will need to have excellent case documentation skills and be able to manage and motivate multiple clients over an extended time period.

You will initially help recruit subjects with an appropriate clinical and behavioural profile, enrol them, assess their presenting signs in the context of an agreed anxiety profile, provide appropriate behaviour advice and support them during regular follow up for an extended period.

You will take the lead on the agreed data collection plan, produce basic descriptive data summaries, and be willing to undertake further analysis under the direction of others to produce high-quality research outputs, including reports, papers and other publications of national/international standing.

Project Management

Perform project management activities, planning, scheduling, monitoring and reporting on progress of research projects. To work effectively alongside other members of the clinical behavioural and research team.

Liaison and Networking

Identify and liaise with internal and external stakeholders and collaborators, alongside colleagues in the Department, maintaining positive and effective working relationships.

Internal Research Activities

Participate in and help to organise internal academic activities, including seminars, research meetings and conferences.

Continuous Professional Development

Undertake continuous professional development activities in line with statutory professional requirements and an agreed academic development plan.

Grant Applications

Potentially contribute to the production of further grant applications in future.

Teaching Support

Aid in the clinical behavioural development and support of others.

In addition to the above, undertake such duties as may reasonably be requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Scope and dimensions of the role

Ideally you will be an F/MRCVS or have a degree allowing direct entry onto the RCVS register but we will also consider applications from experienced veterinary graduates whose degree is not automatically registerable with the RCVS. In which case you will work under closer veterinary supervision. Salary will reflect experience and degree of supervision required. Research training will be provided as required, but an organised approach to work is essential.

Key working relationships/networks

Internal	External
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principal Investigator• Head of Research Centre• Head of School• Other research and academic staff within the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research collaborators• Sponsors and clients



**UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN
PERSON SPECIFICATION**

JOB TITLE	Veterinary Research Associate	JOB NUMBER	CHS204
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Selection Criteria	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Where Evidenced Application (A) Interview (I) Presentation (P) References (R)
Qualifications:		
Degree to allow clinical practice of veterinary medicine in nation of graduation	E	A
F/MRCVS registerable qualification to allow practice of veterinary medicine in the UK	D	A
Post graduate qualification in veterinary behavioural medicine/ clinical animal behaviour	D	A
Post graduate training or equivalent in research, e.g. MSc thesis	D	A
Experience:		
Experience in the field of clinical animal behaviour management	E	A/I
Authorship of research outputs of national/international standing	D	A/I
Experience of research in specific project area, microbiome, probiotics, anxiety etc	D	A/I
Skills and Knowledge:		
Ability to establish and manage own clinical case load	E	A/I
Understanding of the requirements for documenting and reporting a case series	E	A/I
Ability to prioritise own workload and work to specified deadlines under pressure	E	A/I
Ability to communicate and explain complex subjects orally	E	I
Knowledge and skills specific to project/area including the relationship between physical and mental health in animals	E	A/I
Competencies and Personal Attributes:		
Flexible approach to workload	E	I
Ability to work on own and as part of a team	E	I
Enthusiasm and commitment	E	I
Excellent report writing skills	E	A/I
Excellent verbal communication skills	E	I

Essential Requirements are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. **Desirable Requirements** are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Author	DM	PBP	AG
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