



UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN

CELEBRATING
525 YEARS
1495 – 2020

Clinical Embryologist

School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

Closing date: 09 November 2020

Interview date: To Be Confirmed

Reference number: ARU022A



INTRODUCTION

The Aberdeen Fertility Centre provides IVF/ICSI, and frozen embryo transfer treatment and also has an extensive egg and sperm donation programme. The Centre has been providing patients in Grampian, Highland, Orkney and Shetland with a full range of fertility services for over 25 years. The Centre has been involved in many notable Scottish achievements (first live birth following IVF treatment, first egg donation live birth, first frozen embryo live birth, first ICSI live birth, first live birth following surgical sperm retrieval and first ISO certified unit in Scotland).

The advertised post therefore affords the successful candidate the opportunity to join a clinic with a long-standing history of excellence in both clinical services and research.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Main purpose of the role:

To contribute to the strategic direction of the Aberdeen Fertility Centre (AFC) Embryology and Andrology Laboratories, provide scientific support to the team and provide clinical embryology and andrology services within the legislation of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology (HFE) Act and the HFE Authority Code of Practice, whilst maintaining professional registration with the Association of Clinical Embryologists.

Key Responsibilities:

Clinical Embryologist

- To provide a clinical embryology service within the AFC for the treatment of patients with fertility problems ensuring safe and responsible handling and identification of gametes and embryos.
- To maintain accurate confidential laboratory and patient records including entering clinical data into a specialist database and to perform audits of all aspects of the service and undertake data analysis.
- To use expertise and knowledge and take responsibility for making decisions daily, of a complex, non-routine nature, which affect the outcome of clinical treatment.
- Communicate daily with patients conveying complicated information regarding their treatment in an easily understood format and obtaining informed consent for the use and storage of gametes and embryos.
- Liaise with a multi-disciplinary team, external professional bodies and other healthcare providers regarding all aspects of patient care and treatment. Work with research staff and support ongoing clinical and research projects and present results in scientific meetings.
- Take a role in training junior members of the team and support the needs of team members to meet standards set in the Centre.
- To work with the quality manager to ensure the ongoing development of the QMS and ensure appropriate Standard Operating Procedures are in place.
- Maintain and enhance knowledge and experience through Association of Clinical Embryologists continuous professional development (CPD) scheme which is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council.

AT A GLANCE:

SALARY:

Grade 6 £33,797 -
£40,323 per annum

HOURS OF WORK:

Full-time (37.5 hours per
week)

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive



CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

Applicants should have a Life science degree, and either be HCPC registered as a Clinical Scientist (Embryology) or working towards State Registration via the STP route and almost near completion. Laboratory experience should ideally include ICSI and cryopreservation techniques including vitrification.

The post holder will also be expected to keep abreast of recent scientific and other developments in assisted reproduction techniques, including any new legislation that may affect laboratory operation, and ensure compliance with new legislation.

Active research programmes exist in reproductive medicine and as such you should have a demonstrable interest in research. All research will comply with Aberdeen University Guidelines on Research Governance.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 6 salary scale and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 12 month probation period.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This post does not meet the minimum requirements as issued by UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) to qualify for an employer-sponsored visa. We are therefore unable to consider applications from candidates for this post who require sponsorship to work in the UK.

Relocating to a new area can be a daunting experience for any new member of staff. To help you with relocating to Aberdeen to take up your new appointment, we have compiled information which we hope will help you to get started with some of the essentials when taking up your new post. The University will also reimburse relocation costs to a maximum of £8,000 for qualifying purposes. For more information, please visit:
<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs/aberdeen-life/practical-information-112.php>

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life science degree. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Association of Clinical Embryologists Certificate/Diploma (or equivalent experience). HCPC registration as a clinical scientist (Embryology) or working towards this via the STP route, near completion.
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully trained in all routine andrology and embryology tasks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICSI practitioner Cryopreservation including Vitrification experience. Experience in training junior members.
Personal qualities and abilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Other eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent communication skills, both written and oral. Ability to work independently and as part of a team. Good Interpersonal and organisational skills Able to maintain accurate records of work undertaken Ability to work to a high level and unsupervised Good attention to detail. <p>Flexible working pattern which includes weekends. Rota of 1:5 to participate on the weekend and on call rota.</p>	

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

Open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the centre of everything it does. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR (TIMES & SUNDAY TIMES)

70TH IN THE WORLD FOR RESEARCH CITATIONS (THE)

32ND IN THE WORLD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (THE)

28TH MOST INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD (THE)

15TH EQUAL IN THE UK FOR OVERALL STUDENT SATISFACTION (NSS)

11TH BEST STUDENT INTAKE IN THE UK (TIMES & SUNDAY TIMES)

PERCENTAGE OF SCOTTISH INTAKE FROM MOST DEPRIVED AREAS UP FROM 4.5% IN 2018/19 TO 9% IN 2019/20

CURRENT CONTEXT

The University will build on the significant achievements above in 2020 and beyond. Underpinning our high performance and significant growth is a £100m investment in Aberdeen's estate which will include the completion of a new Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King's Quarter, and a new Business School building. The University has also invested in 50 new academic posts, and 2020 will see the launch of 5 Interdisciplinary, cross-institution Research Centres that will catalyse world-leading research in our areas of research strength. The 5 Interdisciplinary Challenges are: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing.

The University of Aberdeen is a recent recipient of The Queen's Anniversary Prize, awarded to recognise world-class excellence in innovation and practical benefit to people and society. The University was given this award for health service research leading to improvements in academic and clinical practice and delivery of health care.

INTERNATIONAL

Aberdeen is also increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation, and building on its established partnership in Qatar with new partnerships in Sri Lanka, with the International Institute of Health Sciences, and in China, with Shanghai University and SCNU.

The University of Aberdeen is proud to be the first UK University to operate on a dedicated campus in Qatar. Phase 1 of this partnership with AFG College has successfully recruited over 600 students. Phase 2 will see the creation of a substantially larger campus, with capacity for at least 5,000 students and research activity. For further information on our Qatar campus, visit <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/qatar/>.



ABERDEEN 2040

On Founders' day in 2020, our 525th anniversary as a University, we launched our new strategy 'Aberdeen 2040'. Over the next 20 years, four strategic themes will shape our learning, discovery and strategic actions:

INCLUSIVE: We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.

INTERNATIONAL: We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.

INTERDISCIPLINARY: We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.

SUSTAINABLE: We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and our finances. We work responsibly.

OUR EDUCATION

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future and become change-makers across the globe. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

OUR RESEARCH

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen's Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous, working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.

ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

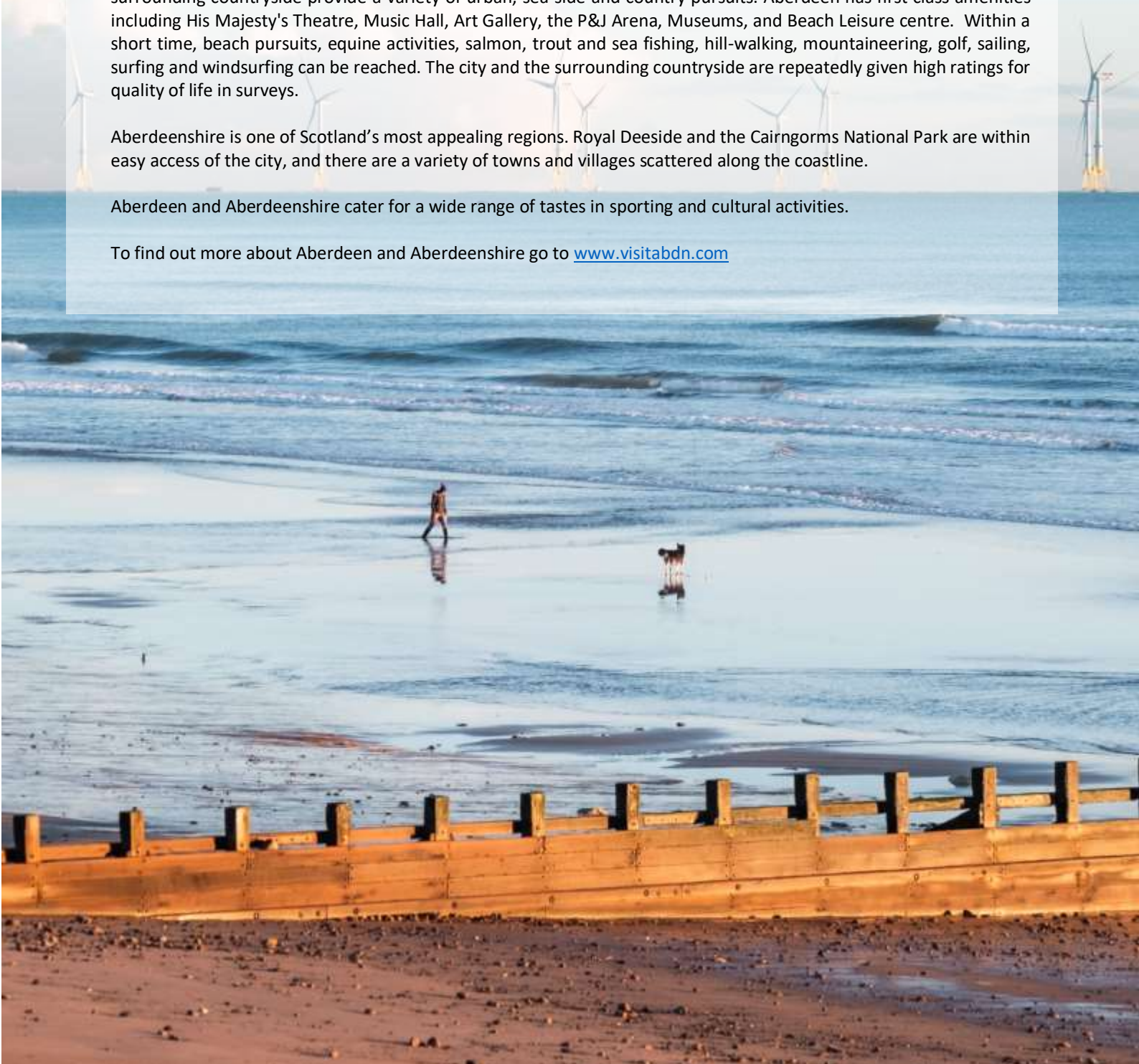
Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), and Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations. <http://www.aberdeenairport.com> Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the P&J Arena, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to www.visitabdn.com



EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found here: <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php>

The University's commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE's Race Equality Charter, affirming the University's commitment to the charter's aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) user can contact us directly by using [contact SCOTLAND-BSL](#)

The University is delighted to be accredited as a [Disability Confident](#) employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277.php>

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and personal statement of no more than two sides of A4, outlining your reasons for making an application.

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 09 November 2020

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Dr Elizabeth Ferguson, 01224 551974 e.ferguson@abdn.ac.uk
or Mrs Alison Mctavish, 01224 554482 a.r.mctavish@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Ferguson or Mrs Alison Mctavish

Please quote reference number ARUO22A on all correspondence