

Devon-Lee Allies

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Career Objective

An experienced and passionate medical biotechnologist with over 10 years of expertise in immunology, bioinformatics, and computational biology. Proven track record in academic and corporate lab environments, with a strong focus on tuberculosis research. Seeking to apply deep knowledge and skills in a challenging role within an internationally accredited laboratory, contributing to advancements in bioinformatics and computational biology to drive innovation in healthcare and medical research.

Career Highlights:

- Played a key role in multiple clinical studies by coordinating laboratory activities, conducting immunological tests, and supporting both academic and commercial research initiatives.
- Contributed to several research papers published in internationally recognised journals, including *PubMed*, *National Library of Medicine*, and *BMC Infectious Diseases*.
- Research has been cited 62 times in the past five years, demonstrating its impact within the scientific community.

Specialist Skills

- Project management
- Pipe-line design
- Immunological research
- Clinical Research & Study Coordination
- Flow Cytometry
- Team leadership (People Management)
- Stakeholder relationship management
- Effective communication (verbal and written)
- Strategic planning
- Analytical
- Creative problem solving
- Critical thinking

IT Skills

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Teams)
- RedCap
- Python (Programming Language)
- R (Programming Language)
- APACS
- Linux
- SharePoint
- Power BI
- Nexflow

Qualifications and Certificates

- **Stellenbosch University**
 - MSc Computational Biology (currently studying)
 - BSc Honours Computational Biology
- **Cape Peninsula University of Technology**
 - National Diploma – Biomedical Technology
- **Immunology Board Exam**
 - Health Professions Council of South Africa – 81% (A+) pass mark

Demonstrated Abilities

- Expert in immunology and tuberculosis research, with experience in assay preparation, PBMC isolation, and processing clinical samples (serum, sputum, urine) for research studies
- Proficient in using FACSCantoII for sample staining and acquisition, with expertise in flow cytometry and data analysis using FlowJo.
- Successfully created and implemented an automated dashboard that streamlined the logging and retrieval of field data, enhancing operational efficiency for study coordinators and principal investigators.
- Managed quality control processes and SOP development in an ISO-accredited lab environment, ensuring compliance with industry standards and regulatory requirements.

Work History

Stellenbosch University, South Africa
Division of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics

www.linkedin.com/company/mbhg/

Project Co-ordinator

August 2023 - Current

- Managing Coordinating project schedules, budgets and timelines, and deliverables for Clinical Studies with budgets of approx. NZ\$ 285 000 – NZ\$ 300 000.
- Creating and maintaining project documents for Clinical Studies.
- Tracking and reporting on project progress, identifying potential delays or roadblocks, and developing contingency plans.
- Communicating effectively with project stakeholders, including project sponsors, team members, and external partners.

Stellenbosch University, South Africa
Division of Immunology

www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/healthsciences/immunology/

Technical Laboratory Officer

February 2016 - July 2023

- Routine laboratory work, logging of samples, processing serum, sputum, urine, GeneXperts (Tuberculosis), PBMC isolation and lavage samples.
- Preparation of whole blood assays and conducting the assays in conjunction with various peptide stimulations.
- Experience in staining and acquiring samples using FACSCantoll.
- Experience in performing analysis using FlowJo.
- Experience in managing and maintenance of samples in liquid nitrogen.
- Created and implemented an automated dashboard to assist study coordinators and Principal Investigators with logging and retrieving field data
- Contributed to several studies and research papers featured in academic journals and publications.

The Biovac Institute, South Africa
Bio-pharmaceutical company with local vaccine manufacturing

<https://biovac.co.za>

Biological Quality Supervisor

December 2014 - July 2015

- Co-ordinating internal quality control processes with the QC planner across departments
- Progress Monitoring, Follow-Up & Reporting laboratory SOPs and procedures
- Coordination of biological and microbiological testing, including sterility testing, environmental monitoring, endotoxin testing and other tests.
- Review of laboratory raw data and investigation of out of specification results.
- Compilation of analytical method validation/verification protocols and reports, coordination of the testing, and the writing of Standard Operating Procedures.
- Coordination of laboratory support activities (including cleaning glassware, autoclaving, waste disposal and specialised cleaning of graded areas).
- Review of autoclave logs and approval of autoclave cycles.

Synexa Life Sciences, South Africa
A global provider of biomarker and bioanalytical services

<https://synexagroup.com/>

Research Associate

June 2012 – October 2014

- Conducted immunology/biological tests in clinical studies as per protocol supplied by a client.
- Conceptualised literature searches for new assays.
- Evaluated new diagnostic kits and compiled validation reports
- Experience setting up specialised, non-routine assays/methods to meet a specific client's needs.

- Developing and validating assays and translating them to a routine platform

National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS), South Africa

<https://www.nhls.ac.za/>

Diagnostic pathology service in South Africa, supporting the national and provincial health departments in the delivery of healthcare

Medical Technologist Trainee

December 2010 – May 2012

- Conducted lab tests on clinical specimens to obtain information about a patient's health pertaining to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.
- This role provided valuable insight and experience in preparation for the immunology board exam.
- Furthermore, this role introduced me to an accredited lab environment.

Recent Key Projects / Publications

- ***Optimising the yield from bronchoalveolar lavage on human participants in infectious disease immunology research*** - National Library of Medicine · May 31, 2023
- ***Safety and immunogenicity of VPM1002 versus BCG in South African newborn babies: a randomised, phase 2 non-inferiority double-blind controlled trial*** - PubMed · Jun 27, 2022
- ***Sputum lipoarabinomannan (LAM) as a biomarker to determine sputum mycobacterial load: exploratory and model-based analyses of integrated data from four cohorts*** - BMC Infectious Diseases · Apr 2, 2022
- ***GitHub Portfolio*** – <https://github.com/DevonAllies>

Voluntary Work /Outreach work