



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role: Microbiologist – Product Testing

Responsible to: CEO

Role Purpose: Advising Head of Endorsements (Allergy Research Limited) to ensure the testing and assessment of products for the endorsement programmes, Seal of Approval and Allergy Friendly Product Award, are conducted professionally and in line with the relevant international/Allergy Research Limited protocols.

Location Allergy UK is based in Foots Cray near Sidcup, Kent which is on the main train line to London and is convenient to the M25/M20/A20/A2 major roads.

Key Accountabilities:

- To receive test reports the independent laboratory contracted by Allergy UK to test products.
- Review a copy of these test reports and advise whether the testing is accurate, the report is acceptable and the result is favourable, or not, against our endorsement scheme standards.
- When required, receive and review test reports from independent third party laboratories acting on behalf of product manufacturers. Provide a review report detailing the information submitted and the relevant results that qualify the product for our endorsement, or not.
- Liaison with the charity regarding protocols and when necessary advise the testing laboratory accordingly on issues relating to test procedures and protocols. For example, advising which protocol to use.
- To be the point of contact with the charity, discussing and providing advice regarding any issues that may arise during the endorsement process.
- Retain confidentiality at all times.

Person Specification

Minimum Requirements/Qualifications

- Master's degree in microbiology.
- Knowledge of testing procedures and how to assess product performance and thresholds, preferably including understanding reduction of allergens and other aspects required.
- Knowledge of laboratory good working practice, containment of hazardous substances etc. and ISO 17025 standards.
- Knowledge of how to appraise protocols for testing the range of products in the endorsement programme.
- Ability to design and write test protocols to international standards e.g. IEC, AHAM.

Desirable expertise:

- Master's degree in aerobiology.
- Knowledge of air borne and contact allergens, basic chemical and physical features of them, their origins, dispersal, impacts and required thresholds to benefit people affected by allergy.
- Knowledge of methods of reducing amounts of and exposure to airborne and contact allergens in the indoor environment.
- Working knowledge of sampling and analysis techniques for allergens, including ELISA, MARIA.