

SHAYMA ALSAYYED ISSA

M: (613)618-1559

E: shamissa@gmail.com

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Over 8 years of professional experience in the medical laboratory field, mostly related to cancer pathology, specializing in IHC techniques.
- Proven expertise in academic and research labs integrating a number of molecular and microbiological techniques, as part of acquiring degrees in Molecular Biology/Microbiology (BSc) and Cancer Biology (MSc).
- Computer literacy and an ability to stay up-to-date with technology as the job requires, proven by the regular use of MS office programs, Mac applications, and an electronic database designed for lab record keeping and tracking purposes (ie. CoPath).
- Great time management and organizational skills through detail-oriented job planning which is evident by working in a extensive medical center comprised of 4 hospitals handling numerous samples (ie. 100+) registered in the lab daily.
- Working efficiently as a team player with outstanding interpersonal skills demonstrated by previous job experience within an intricate network, namely 10 other technologists in the same space with constant collaborations with 50+ other labs' members, pathologists, administrators, as well as regular interactions with patients.
- Ability to work on different tasks simultaneously through meticulous assignment planning demonstrated by being in charge of a main job and a few side jobs, yet showing flexibility in such management, while effectively communicating with others, both verbally and in writing.
- Problem solving and troubleshooting capabilities demonstrated by handling automated and semi-automated instruments routinely.
- Distinguished ability to work independently with minimum instructions beyond training proven by the very nature of the job where high level of concentration, precision and perfectionism are required.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Worked as a **medical lab technologist** in specialized pathology labs with a focus on IHC tests at **Kuwait Cancer Control Center (KCCC)**, Kuwait, from **June 2012 to July 2020**. My responsibilities included:
 - Receiving new samples for IHC staining from other labs and hospitals, registering them electronically and dispatching the results.
 - Receiving requests from the pathologists for specific marker tests (eg. breast, lung, GIST, brain, lymph and thyroid cancer markers) depending on the patient case.
 - Sectioning formalin fixed, paraffin embedded cancer tissues using microtomes along with prepared control slides, setting up light microscope quality slides with the sections for staining and mounting the slides after staining.
 - Inspecting the stained slides under a light microscope for quality assurance.
 - Periodic filing of case slides.
 - Performing quality control tactics by disinfecting the work areas and discarding wastes according to rules and regulations.
 - Attending seminars and conferences whose hours were calculated as CME points.
- Worked on a **postgraduate project** researching mammalian cancer cell lines and investigating a novel kinase and its contribution to cancer biology in Dr. John Brognard's lab, **Paterson Institute for Cancer Research**, University of Manchester, the UK, from **April 2011 to August 2011**
 - Implemented a number of molecular techniques including gene knockdown by RNA interference and SDS-PAGE.

- Worked on a **postgraduate project** researching yeast cells to investigate the formation of granules under various stress conditions in Dr. Mark Ashe's lab, **University of Manchester**, the UK, from **October 2010 to March 2011**
 - Performed DNA extraction and PCR among other techniques.
- Worked as an **environmental investigator** for **Kadema for Scientific Research and Consultancy (KSCS)**, Kuwait from **July 2010 to September 2010**
 - Submitted environmental reports to a governmental agency after in depth investigations of certain establishments were carried out.
- Worked temporarily on a **research project** titled: "microRNA profiling of prostate cancer cell lines", **Kuwait University**, Kuwait, from **October 2008 to February 2009**
 - Trained on different methods including Western blot and RNA extraction while maintaining mammalian cell lines.

EDUCATION

2011	Master's Degree (MSc) in Cancer Biology University of Manchester, the United Kingdom
2009	Post-Graduate Diploma (PgDip) in Molecular Biology Kuwait University, Kuwait
2007	Bachelor's Degree (BSc) in Molecular biology and Microbiology Kuwait University, Kuwait

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Utilized a number of tools throughout my studies and latest job, including:

- The operation of IHC autostainers on a daily basis:
 - Dako Omnis, IHC Lab, KCCC, Kuwait since April 2016
 - Bond III, IHC Lab, KCCC, Kuwait since December 2015
 - *UltraVentana* with an official training at Roche, Burgess Hill, the UK in October 2014
 - Bond Max, IHC Lab, KCCC, Kuwait since November 2013
- Nucleic acid extraction from tissues and cell pellets (DNA, total RNA and microRNA) and protein extraction
- PCR and primer design
- Gel electrophoresis (agarose and SDS-PAGE)
- Western blotting
- Cell culture (bacterial, yeast, fungal and mammalian cancer cell lines)
- Epifluorescent and light microscopy
- RNA interference

OTHER SKILLS

- Bilingual: Arabic as a native language, and English at an advanced level (CLB 9).
- Tech savvy with the ability to manage both Windows and Macintosh programs as well as lab information systems and databases such as CoPath.
- Finished a 2 week intensive workshop called "Empowering Visible Newcomer Women to Succeed in the Canadian Labour Market", May 2022, arranged by World Skills Ottawa.
- Enrolled in a Level 1 French Language course, May 2022.
- Completed the TCPS 2-CORE course, June 2022.