



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research
Reference:	20/108347
Closing Date:	Wednesday 14 October 2020
Salary:	£33,797 to £40,322 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Wednesday 4 November 2020
Duration:	This is a fixed term position available until 30 April 2023

JOB PURPOSE:

The post holder will be based in the Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research and support a Cancer Research UK programme which aims to explore the relationship between DNA damage and immune response activation, in order to identify new strategies to stratify and treat breast cancer patients.

The post holder will be involved in i) the characterisation of the molecular mechanisms responsible for DDRD-immune activation, following loss of specific genes or chemotherapeutic treatment and ii) the identification of drugs that can activate the DDRD immune response for rational combination therapies with immune checkpoint blockade.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Design, develop and perform studies related to the project and interpret the results using the appropriate methodologies and techniques.
2. Attend training, where/when appropriate, to maintain and expand expertise in the field.
3. Liaise closely with other members of the group and establish and maintain collaborative links with project partners.
4. Regularly present the results to the group and external audiences, in order to disseminate and publicise research findings.
5. Carry out administrative tasks to ensure projects are completed on time and within budget.
6. Read academic papers, journals and other relevant material, in order to keep up to date with developments in the area and related disciplines.
7. Contribute to grant proposal applications to internal and external funding bodies, as well as project and travel support.
8. Supervise staff e.g. PhD, MSc, undergraduate/summer students as required.
9. Attend and present new experimental data at national and international conferences.
10. Write up results in a timely manner and contribute to the publication of manuscripts, both as first and contributing author.
11. Assist with maintaining equipment and supplies.
12. Any other reasonable duties within the general ambit of the post.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes and contribute to research group planning.
2. Plan day to day activity and future work to achieve the established targets within the timeframe of the research project.
3. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
4. Coordinate and liaise with other group members over work progress and proposed goals.
5. Assist with planning of day to day activities of support staff and/or students (Phd, Msc undergraduate/summer students etc.)

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used effectively and efficiently.
2. Provide guidance as required to any students and other group members who may be assisting with the research.
3. Take shared responsibility for the upkeep of lab equipment and replenishment of laboratory stocks and exercise due diligence when using equipment.
4. Support development and training of support staff and students.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Communicate openly with lab colleagues and group leader the latest research findings.
2. Liaise with colleagues and students on a regular basis.
3. Develop contacts with other members of the research community at Queen's and other Universities to identify potential collaborations.
4. Join external networks to share information and ideas.
5. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries, etc.
6. Join national and international relevant societies.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in cancer biology, molecular biology or a related discipline.
2. At least 3-years relevant experience working in the field of cancer biology and/or immunology.
3. Experience working with in vitro and in vivo models of cancer.
4. Experience with a range of molecular techniques, such as PCR, qPCR, IHC/ IF, WB, RNA-seq, NGS, CRISPR, IP (experience with at least 4 of these techniques is required).
5. Experience interacting with community groups and/or funders.
6. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes linked with the research group and/or centre.
7. Contribute to the School's/Centre's outreach programme by links with industry, patient advocacy groups, etc.
8. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques applicable to the research programme.
9. Problem solving skills.
10. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
11. Ability to build contacts and be part of internal and external networks.
12. Ability to assess and organise resources, responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities.
13. Team worker, highly motivated and supportive of other members in the team.
14. Demonstrate intellectual ability.
15. Interest in driving focused research programme.
16. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.
17. Must be willing to work with in vivo models of cancer following the guidelines of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.
18. Must be willing to travel for technical training with collaborators where appropriate.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Hold a UK home office Personal License.
2. Experience in statistics and bioinformatics.
3. Evidence of scientific publications appropriate to career stage.
4. Experience in cancer immunology.
5. Experience carrying out high throughput and high-content imaging/screening.
6. Experience performing large scale drug screens.
7. Experience supervising/mentoring other staff members and students.
8. Experience working with multidisciplinary teams.
9. Evidence of involvement in successful research programmes and grant applications.
10. Presentations at national/international meetings.