Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology
Reference:	19/107702
Closing Date:	Wednesday 4 September 2019
Salary:	£33,199 to £39,610 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Wednesday 18 September 2019
Duration:	Available until 21 August 2021

JOB PURPOSE:

Applications are invited for a Research Fellow position focused on integrating mutations analysis, by NGS with the drug responses patients with myeloid blood cancers (My BLOCk). The My BLOCk initiative is funded by Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI (LLNI) and will involve interaction with scientists within the Blood Cancer group within CCRCB and the Haematology Laboratory within the Belfast City Hospital

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To design, develop and execute experiments related to the above project under the supervision of Professor Ken Mills, in order to obtain reliable data of publication quality. Additionally, to use methodologies and other techniques appropriate to the area of the research to evaluate and interpret results.
2. The posts will:
   a. validate and identify existing, novel or repurposed therapies, either singly or in combination, to target myeloid blood cancers using systems involving complex combination drug screening approaches

   b. coordinate, sequence and analysis targeted mutation screens of samples of patient with myeloid blood cancers
3. To present regular progress reports on research to members of the Blood Cancer Research Group, internal and external audiences and to disseminate and publicise research findings.
4. To be able to work with clinical scientist colleagues in the Belfast City Hospital.
5. Initiate and maintain links with collaborators within QUB and in other institutions both nationally and internationally.
6. To write up results in a timely manner and take a leadership role in writing research manuscripts and in helping to draft future grant proposals.
7. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research projects to ensure they are completed on time and within budget.
8. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
9. To formulate, write and submit grants for fellowship awards, project and travel support.
10. To attend and present new experimental data at national and international meetings.
11. To carry out undergraduate supervision or demonstrating duties within area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
12. To assist the supervision of postgraduate students or summer students on mini-projects.
13. Any other reasonable duties within the general ambit of the post and competence of post holder.

Planning and Organising:

1. Day-to-day planning of experiments.
2. Short-term (1-3 month) planning of research within framework of the project.
3. Ongoing organisation and strategy to achieve targets with contingency planning.
4. Plan well in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and conference presentations.
5. Organise informal meetings, communicate directly with other lab members and supervisor.
6. Develop hypotheses for future fellowship and grant applications.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Support the development and training of support staff and students by making available their research experience and expertise.
2. Take shared responsibility for the upkeep of lab equipment and replenishment of lab stocks and exercise due diligence when using equipment.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Communicate freely with lab colleagues the latest research findings/results.
2. Develop contacts with other labs at QUB and identify possible cross-discipline collaborations.
3. Join national and international scientifically relevant societies and network at conferences
4. To work with the LLNI in promoting their activities associated with their funded research

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a PhD in Haematology, Biochemistry, Pharmacy or molecular biology related subject.
2. Have or about to obtain HCPC registration.
3. Three years relevant research experience to include at least three of the following:
   - Culture and in-vitro, treatment of primary cells and cell lines.
   - Experience in tissue culture and cellular analysis including fluorescence microscopy and flow cytometry.
   - Use of biochemical and molecular biology techniques including protein analysis, cell cycle and apoptosis, colony assays, quantitative PCR and fluorescence microscopy.
   - In vitro drug screens preferably involving large scale single agent and combination screening
   - RNA-seq or similar next-generation sequencing approaches
4. Must have published paper(s) in quality journals to a level commensurate with their research and/or clinical scientist experience.
5. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
6. Ability to communicate complex information clearly and network with research and external partners.
7. Highly motivated, commitment to scientific research. Good laboratory practice, organised and attentive to detail and ability to meet deadlines.
8. Must demonstrate a willingness to commit themselves for the length off the project.
9. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.
10. Must be willing and able to travel to national and international meetings and collaborator facilities.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. 1st Class undergraduate degree in science or pharmacy.
2. Previous experience in haematology/cancer biology.
3. Previous track record of high quality research in the field of haematology/cancer biology.
4. Previous experience of working within a clinical haematology laboratory.
5. Experience in bioinformatics.
6. Hold a personal animal licence.
7. At least one first author paper in a high impact factor journal.
8. Supervision of under-graduate students.
9. Evidence of participation in training/mentoring of students or scientific organization.
10. Conference presentation poster and/or oral
11. Scientific memberships eg. BSH, ASH, AACR.