

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research
Reference:	22/109761
Closing Date:	Monday 16 May 2022
Salary:	£34, 304 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Week Commencing 30 May 2022
Duration:	2 years

JOB PURPOSE:

A postdoctoral position within the RNA Biology Group, led by Dr Seyed Mehdi Jafarnejad, to study the role of mRNA translation and decay machinery in cellular response to cancer drug treatments. The successful applicant will employ high-throughput assays (e.g. RNA-Seq, ribosome profiling) in combination with molecular biology techniques, as well as in vitro tumour models to study the reciprocal effects of drug treatments on mRNA translation and decay machinery and the role of these machinery in cancer drug-resistance.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To design, develop and execute studies related to the project, obtain reliable data, evaluate and interpret the results using methodologies and techniques appropriate to the area of the research, under the supervision of the PI.
2. Provide reports and participate and take a leadership role in writing manuscripts and publication of the research findings.
3. Participate in application for new sources of funding, and formulate, write, and submit applications for grants, fellowship awards, project and travel support.
4. Generate and maintain in vitro cancer models.
5. Initiate, maintain, and expand collaborative links with project partners.
6. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group and to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. Carry out undergraduate and/or MSc supervision within the post holder's area of expertise and under the guidance of the PI.
8. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s and maintenance of the lab to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget. These tasks will be done in coordination with the PI and other lab members.
9. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep up to date with developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
10. Coordinate own research findings in light of ongoing research within the group, to facilitate teamwork and overall progress of the group's research focus and productivity.
11. Any other reasonable duties within the general ambit of the post.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Hold or about to hold a PhD in cancer biology, molecular biology, cell biology, biochemistry, or a related discipline.
2. At least three years relevant research experience with publication record commensurate with experience in the fields of RNA biology, translational control, or RNA decay.
3. Experienced in a range of molecular and cellular biology techniques, such as PCR, IHC/IF, Western blot, flow cytometry, ELISA.
4. Experienced in in vitro culture models.
5. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research project.
6. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
7. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
8. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
9. Ability to assess and organise resources.
10. Team worker, highly motivated, supportive of junior colleagues within the group.

11. Interest and independence in driving focussed research programme.
12. Willingness to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.
13. Ability to work under pressure involves dealing with tight deadlines.
14. Must be prepared to travel for technical training as appropriate to collaborators.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. 1st Class undergraduate degree in biochemistry, molecular biology, or related discipline.
2. Experience in RNA-Seq and high-throughput assays.
3. Experience with organoid models.
4. Experience with in vivo models.
5. Experience in cancer biology.
6. Experience in FACS analyses.
7. Evidence of involvement in successful programmes and grant applications.
8. Presentations at national/international meetings.