

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Reference:	24/112170
Closing Date:	Friday 13 September 2024
Salary:	£39,922 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Wednesday 25 September 2024
Duration:	Fixed Term - Full Time, available for 18 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The post holder will be based in the Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research and support the Lappin lab in identifying and validating mechanisms of immune activation and evasion mechanisms in myeloid malignancies.

The post holder will be involved in i) the characterisation of the molecular mechanisms responsible for immune activation, following loss of or mutation of specific genes important for the pathogenesis of MDS/AML or chemotherapeutic treatment and ii) the identification of drugs that can activate an immune response for rational combination therapies with immune checkpoint blockade. This project is funded by Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI for 18 months.

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. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences 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/train staff and supervise and manage students and projects 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 remit of the post.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain* a relevant PhD in cancer biology, molecular biology or related discipline CV (*must be obtained within 3 months of closing date of post).
2. Significant, relevant research experience working in the field of cancer biology specifically myeloid malignancies.
3. Experience working with in vitro and immune competent in vivo cancer models.
4. Experience with CRISPR/Cas9 technology and si/sh-RNA screening methods.
5. Experience with a range of molecular techniques, such as PCR, qPCR, IHC/ IF, WB, RNA-seq, NGS, CRISPR, IP (experience with at least 6 of these techniques is required).
6. Experience with handling RNA-seq data and analysis.
7. Supervision of junior lab members.
8. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.

9. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with industry, community groups etc.
10. Ability to interact with community groups and funders.
11. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in blood cancer research and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
12. Problem solving skills.
13. Ability to generate and lead research ideas.
14. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
15. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
16. Ability to assess and organise resources, responding to new pressures and adjusting priorities.
17. Team worker, highly motivated and supportive of other members in the team.
18. Demonstrate intellectual ability.
19. Interest in driving focused research programme.
20. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience with high-throughput drug screening.
2. Presentation at national and international meetings.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal enquiries may be directed to Dr Lydia Roets at L.Roets@qub.ac.uk