Higher Scientific Officer
Candidate Information

November 2024

The Institute of Cancer Research

About our organisation

We are one of the world's most influential cancer research institutes with an outstanding record of achievement dating back more than 100 years. We are world leaders in identifying cancer genes, discovering cancer drugs and developing precision radiotherapy. Together with our hospital partner The Royal Marsden, we are rated in the top four centres for cancer research and treatment worldwide. As well as being a world-class institute, we are a college of the University of London.

We came second in the league table of university research quality compiled from the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2021). We have charitable status and rely on support from partner organisations, charities, donors and the general public. We have more than 1000 staff and postgraduate students across three sites – in Chelsea and Sutton.

Radiotherapy and Imaging

Preclinical Molecular Imaging Team

The team focuses on development of innovative preclinical imaging biomarkers for non-invasive and real-time mapping of specific antigens involved either in early tumour cell response or de novo resistance to new treatment approaches.

The postholder will be involved in and help oversee studies related to targeted radionuclide therapy (TRT) in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* models of glioblastoma. Specifically, they will investigate the impact of TRT dosage on tumor cell killing and assess changes in the immune cell repertoire as a measure of therapy response.

Our mission is to make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

Our values

The ICR has a highly skilled and committed workforce, with a wide variety of roles, each requiring different skills. But whether you work as a researcher, or work as part of our corporate team, your work and behaviour is underpinned by these six values. They are what bring us together as one team - as 'One ICR'.

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Pursuing excellence

We aspire to excellence in everything we do, and aim to be leaders in our field.

Acting with Integrity

We promote an open and honest environment that gives credit and acknowledges mistakes, so that our actions stand up to scrutiny.

Valuing all our people

We value the contribution of all our people, help them reach their full potential, and treat everyone with kindness and respect.

Working together

We collaborate with colleagues and partners to bring together different skills, resources and perspectives.

Leading innovation

We do things differently in ways that no one else has done before, and share the expertise and learning we gain.

Making a difference

We all play our part, doing a little bit more, a little bit better, to help improve the lives of people with cancer.

Our values set out how each of us at the ICR, works together to meet our mission – to make the discoveries that defeat cancer. *They summarise our desired behaviours, attitudes and culture – how we value one another and how we take pride in the work we do, to deliver impact for people with cancer and their loved ones."*

Professor Kristian Helin
Chief Executive

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Job description

Department / division:	Radiotherapy and Imaging
Pay grade / staff group:	Scientific Professional/ 3
Hours / duration:	Full time (<35> hours per week), Monday to Friday. Fixed term contract for <1> years
Reports to:	Higher Scientific Officer
Accountable to:	Dr Gabriela Kramer-Marek, Group Leader
Main purpose of the job:	Manage studies relating to targeted radionuclide therapy (TRT) in both in vitro and in vivo models of glioblastoma

Duties and responsibilities:

Key Duties

Cell culture (establishment and characterisation of primary patient-derived 2D and 3D models).
Conjugation of peptides, small proteins and mAbs with fluorescent dyes.
Non-invasive (PET/SPECT/CT and IVIS/CT imaging (quality control tests for all components of pre-clinical scanner, performing imaging studies using pre-clinical models).
Establishment of xenograft models.
Biodistribution, tissue collection and sample preparation.
Preparation and maintenance of experimental protocols, monitoring sheets, and databases.

Expectations

Work diligently, tirelessly and with enthusiasm to meet deadlines.
Take an interest in the general literature including scientific papers relevant to the work of the team and effectively ensure discussion with other team members.
Work independently on the defined project (consulting when appropriate), but retaining flexibility to assist on other projects if required.
Any other duties which may be required which are consistent with the nature and grade of the post.

General

All staff must ensure that they familiarise themselves with and adhere to any ICR policies that are relevant to

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their work and that all personal and sensitive personal data is treated with the utmost confidentiality and in line with the General Data Protection Regulations
Committed, with a keen desire to produce high quality work and achieve goals.
To work in accordance with the ICR's values.
To promote a safe, healthy and fair environment for people to work, where bullying and harassment will not be tolerated.
This job description is a reflection of the present position and is subject to review and alteration in detail and emphasis in the light of future changes or development.

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Person specification

Education and Knowledge

M.Sc of PhD in a relevant biological science	Essential
Knowledge of cancer research and cell biology	Essential
Current or a history of holding a Personal Home Office License	Desirable
Knowledge of glioblastoma biology	Essential
Thorough understanding and proven track record of working in animal management	Desirable

Skills

Experience in molecular and cell biology techniques(e.g. DNA/RNA purification, confocal microscopy, FACS analysis, Western blotting, IHC)	Essential
Experience of working with protein/mAb conjugation	Essential
Cell culture and cell based assays	Essential
Proven track record of animal handling and welfare	Desirable
Experience in preclinical animals models (e.g. subcutaneous ad orthotopic xenografts)	Desirable
Good interpersonal skills and the ability to interact effectively with collaborators	Essential
Excellent organisational skills	Essential
Good verbal and written communication skills, including good presentation skills	Essential

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Benefits

We offer a fantastic working environment, great opportunities for career development and the chance to make a real difference to defeat cancer. We aim to recruit and develop the best – the most outstanding scientists and clinicians, and the most talented professional and administrative staff.

The annual leave entitlement for full time employees is 28 days per annum on joining. This will increase by a further day after 2 years' and 5 years' service.

Staff membership to the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) is available. The USS is a defined benefit scheme and provides a highly competitive pension scheme with robust benefits. The rate of contributions is determined by USS and details of the costs and benefits of this scheme can be found on their website. If staff are transferring from the NHS, they can opt to remain members of the NHS Pension Scheme.

We offer a range of family friendly benefits such as flexible working, a parents' group, and a maternity mentoring scheme. Other great benefits include interest free loans for discounted season tickets for travel and bicycle purchases, access to the NHS discounts website, a free and confidential Employee Assistance Programme which offers a range of well-being, financial and legal advice services, two staff restaurants, and access to a gym and sporting facilities at our Sutton site.

Further information

You may contact Dr **Gabriela Kramer-Marek** for further information by emailing **gkramermarek@icr.ac.uk**. This job description is a reflection of the current position and is subject to review and alteration in detail and emphasis in the light of future changes or development.