



Higher Scientific Officer

November 2022

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 top in the league table of university research quality compiled from the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014).

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.

Targeted Therapy Team

We are a translational research team, led by Professor Kevin Harrington, with interest in ways to activate the immune system to target cancer, for example by using radiotherapy, oncolytic viruses or innate immune agonists. We undertake research to identify mechanisms of action behind successful combination therapy strategies. Areas of activity include thyroid cancer, head and neck cancer and melanoma. We are seeking a highly motivated, proactive and well-organised individual to join the team. The post-holder will be a specialist in in vivo work, have extensive hands-on experience in in vivo mouse work and hold a current Home Office Personal Licence PIL modules (AB&C). The post-holder will perform in vivo work (murine models) in pre-clinical projects in immunotherapy research. The post-holder will be highly skilled with a wide range of Regulated Procedures including, injections of cells or drug compounds using subcutaneous, intravenous, intratumoural, intraperitoneal injections, as well as blood sampling (tail vein and cardiac punctures). The successful candidate will be expected to maintain accurate records on project management databases including LabTracks to ensure compliant recording under the various guidance and legal frameworks.

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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'.



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

Higher Scientific Officer

Candidate Information

Job description

Department / division:	Radiotherapy and Imaging
Pay grade / staff group:	Scientific Professional 5 - Higher Scientific Officer (HSO)
Hours / duration:	Full-time (35 hours per week). It may be necessary for the post-holder to work outside hours to meet specific deadlines. Monday to Friday. Fixed-term contract for 2 years (potentially renewable)
Reports to:	Dr Malin Pedersen
Main purpose of the job:	To perform <i>in vivo</i> mouse experiments for various projects within the targeted therapy team. To ensure study protocols are followed to ensure 3Rs, animal welfare and outstanding science are delivered.

Duties and responsibilities:

Main duties and responsibilities

Design, execute, analyse and interpret <i>in vivo</i> experiments alongside other members of the team
Hands on technical work with murine models
To facilitate completion of studies in the BSU and provide data, in a timely and accurate manner.
To advise on and implement best practice for achieving optimum results in line with the 3Rs.
Keep accurate records of data for Home Office compliance including adverse events, animal health and welfare data and preparation of data for Home Office Returns.
Work in a flexible but organised manner to meet objectives/deadlines.
Work and communicate effectively with other members of the team.
Work across animal facilities at both ICR sites (Fulham and Sutton)
Undertake any other duties that may be required which are consistent with the nature and grade of the post.
Ensure study protocols and other instructions for studies are followed to ensure 3Rs, animal welfare and outstanding science are delivered.

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Other responsibilities

Liaising with collaborators from other teams at ICR and external commercial partners as required.

Ensuring adequate record keeping and documentation of all experiments and developed source code.

General

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

Any other duties that are consistent with the nature and grade of the post that may be required.

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

Extensive hands-on experience in in vivo mouse work and hold a current Home Office Personal Licence PIL modules (AB&C).	Essential
Basic understanding of cancer biology	Desirable

Skills

The post-holder will be highly skilled with a wide range of Regulated Procedures including, injections of cells or drug compounds using subcutaneous, intravenous, intratumoural, intraperitoneal injections, as well as blood sampling (tail vein and cardiac punctures).	Essential
The successful candidate will be expected to maintain accurate records on project management databases including LabTracks to ensure compliant recording under the various guidance and legal frameworks.	Essential
Ability to coordinate, plan and execute research to a high standard	Essential
Good communication skills and the ability to foster collaborative projects	Essential
Ability to prioritise a busy workload and work effectively	Essential
Good organisations skills and attention to detail	Essential
Experience of working under pressure and adhering to established deadlines	Essential
Willingness to train other team members	Essential
Willingness to collaborate and contribute to ongoing scientific projects	Essential
Ability to understand and discuss scientific projects	Desirable
Ability to coordinate, plan and execute research to a high standard	Essential

Experience

Experimental techniques (regulated procedures)	Essential
In vivo experiments and holder of Home Office Licence for murine in vivo work	Essential
Highly skilled with a wide range of Regulated Procedures including, injections of cells or drug compounds using subcutaneous, intravenous, intratumoural, intraperitoneal injections, as well as blood sampling (tail vein and cardiac punctures).	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 Malin Pedersen for further information by emailing malin.pedersen@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.