



Postdoctoral Training Fellow Candidate Information

August 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.

Biology of Childhood Leukaemia

The Childhood leukaemia biology team led by Professor Sir Mel Greaves has a long-established track record in unravelling the natural history and causation of leukaemia. The team is part of the Centre for Evolution and Cancer within the Division of Molecular Pathology at ICR. We seek to understand the causation of leukaemia and barriers to its successful treatment through an evolutionary perspective

Our mission
is to make the
discoveries that
defeat cancer.

Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Candidate Information

Job description

Department / division: Biology of Childhood Leukaemia, Centre for Evolution and Cancer | Division of Molecular Pathology

Pay grade / staff group: Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Hours / duration: Full time (35 hours per week), Monday to Friday. Fixed term contract for 1 year

Reports to: Professor Sir Mel Greaves

Main purpose of the job: To execute experimental tests related to evolutionary model of drug resistance in leukaemia

Duties and responsibilities:

Key Duties and Responsibilities

1. To draw up detailed experimental design and laboratory protocols that stringently address the main hypothesis
2. To execute the agreed experimental plans and keep detailed paper and/or records of all data
3. To discuss all project designs and results with Professor Greaves
4. To play an active role in drafting publications and presenting research externally

Workforce Agreement for Postdoctoral Training Fellows

The ICR has a workforce agreement stating that Postdoctoral Training Fellows can only be employed for up to 7 years as PDTF at the ICR, providing total postdoctoral experience (including previous employment at this level elsewhere) does not exceed 10 years

General Duties

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

Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Candidate Information

Any other duties that are consistent with the nature and grade of the post that may be required.
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To work in accordance with the ICR's Values.
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To promote a safe, healthy and fair environment for people to work, where bullying and harassment will not be tolerated.
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Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Candidate Information

Person specification

Education and Knowledge

PhD in biological science	Essential*
Understanding of cancer and leukaemia biology and genomics	Essential
Insight into key clinical challenges in cancer and role of drug resistance	Desirable
Understanding of basics of evolutionary biology and relevance to cancer	Desirable

Skills

PCR based interrogation of DNA and transcriptional profiles of cancer cells	Essential
Use of cancer genomics data bases	Essential
Handling and short term culture of cells	Desirable

Experience

Extensive experience at post doctoral level of successful execution of experiments	Essential
Track record of trouble shooting and showing innovation	Essential
Track record of publishing research output	Essential
Experience of dealing with setbacks and frustration and having developed resilience	Essential

****as a minimum requirement candidates must have submitted their thesis by the start date of their employment and awarded their PhD within the six month probationary period.***

Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Candidate Information

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

Postdoctoral Training Fellow

Candidate Information

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 Professor Sir Mel Greaves for further information by emailing mel.greaves@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.