



Scientific Writer

Centre for Protein Degradation & Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery

Candidate Information

February 2026

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.

The Centre for Protein Degradation

The ICR established the Centre for Protein Degradation (CPD) in 2022 to accelerate targeted protein degradation-based drug discovery – an innovative approach utilising drug-induced degradation of harmful proteins via the cell's endogenous protein disposal system. Our aim is to discover novel molecular glue degraders and PROTACs for the treatment of the most challenging cancers. Based at the ICR's Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery, the CPD benefits from state-of-the-art drug discovery platforms – biology, medicinal and *in silico* chemistry, biophysics, structural biology, proteomics, bioinformatics, as well as strong cancer biology and clinical expertise within the wider ICR and the Royal Marsden Hospital. We also have established collaborations with biotechnology companies and the pharmaceutical industry.

The Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery

The Division of Cancer Therapeutics has an unrivalled track record at discovering novel cancer treatments for the personalised treatment of cancer. Within the Division, the Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery

Our mission
is to make the
discoveries that
defeat cancer.

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(CCDD) is a multidisciplinary 'bench to bedside' centre, comprising 160 staff dedicated to the discovery and development of novel therapeutics for the treatment of cancer. We are one of the largest academic cancer drug discovery groups in the world and, together with our collaborators, have discovered 21 preclinical development candidates, 13 of which have been progressed to clinical evaluation, many with our partners in the ICR/Royal Marsden Drug Development Unit. Our drug abiraterone (Zytiga) has been approved in the US, Canada and Europe for late-stage prostate cancer.

The CCDD's mission is to develop personalised medicines by translating information from the cancer genome and cancer biology into drugs for patient benefit. We implement innovative drug discovery technologies, discover novel mechanism-based drugs, and develop these as rapidly as possible from the laboratory through to hypothesis-testing early clinical trials. We publish our work extensively and have a large network of collaborations with academia, biotechnology companies, and the pharmaceutical industry. Our teams are dedicated to the discovery of small molecule drug candidates, and to the development of high-quality chemical probes to enable new cancer biology research. The Division of Cancer Therapeutics is based in state-of-the-art laboratories in the Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery building, opened in 2020 on the ICR Sutton campus.

About the Scientific Writer position

The Scientific Writer will play a central role in supporting the Centres for Protein Degradation and Cancer Drug Discovery by producing high-quality scientific outputs. The postholder will support the development, editing and management of scientific documents including manuscripts, reports, presentations and material for grant applications. They will coordinate data collection, maintain organised information systems, and manage online and social media content to strengthen the Centres' visibility. Working closely with scientists, project managers, and the professional services teams, the Scientific Writer will ensure timely, effective communication of research activities and key developments, helping to advance the Centres' missions to discover and develop innovative cancer therapeutics.

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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

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Job description

Department / division:	Division of Cancer Therapeutics The Centre for Protein Degradation The Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery
Pay grade / staff group:	Research Management 2
Hours / duration:	Full time (35 hours per week), Monday to Friday. Fixed term contract until the 31-December-2027 in the first instance, with the potential to extend subject to funding.
Reports to:	Dr Fiona Dziegiel, Scientific Project Manager
Accountable to:	Centre for Protein Degradation Leadership Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery Leadership
Main purpose of the job:	To produce clear, accurate and engaging scientific content that showcases the innovative research of the Centres for Protein Degradation and Cancer Drug Discovery to enhance external visibility. The postholder will contribute to, and help coordinate, the development of high-quality scientific documents such as manuscripts, grant applications and presentations.

Duties and responsibilities:

Writing, data management and administration

Develop and edit scientific documents such as manuscripts for publication in scientific journals, reports, and grant proposals. Ensure clarity, accuracy, and adherence to style guidelines.

Coordinate data collection for scientific documents and ensure the relevant internal data management and storage systems are kept up to date.

Manage the CPD and CCDD social media platforms and websites: enhance the Centres' online presence, including scheduling, posting, and community engagement, reflecting the division's culture and strategy, whilst preserving confidentiality.

Support with preparation of scientific presentations for internal and external meetings.

Work flexibly and simultaneously on tasks, prioritising as necessary to meet objectives and deadlines.

Conduct thorough research on scientific topics to ensure content is accurate and up to date, reviewing relevant scientific literature.

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Effective and timely communication

Establish, develop and build effective working relationships with group leaders, scientists and project managers, and communicate with other stakeholders as required.

Work closely with the scientists, subject matter experts and other stakeholders to gather information and ensure the accuracy of the content produced.

Proactively interact with the ICR Business Development and Communications departments to plan content and align with internal policies and strategy.

Monitor relevant scientific and patent literature, summarising and highlighting key developments and disseminating this information in weekly update emails.

General

Any other duties that are consistent with the nature and grade of the post that may be required to support the Centres' goals.

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

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

PhD in life sciences, health sciences, or related field.	Essential
Knowledge of cancer biology.	Essential
Knowledge of targeted protein degradation.	Desirable
Knowledge of drug discovery.	Desirable

Skills

Excellent writing skills with the ability to translate complex scientific concepts into clear and engaging content.	Essential
High level of accuracy and attention to detail in writing and editing.	Essential
Ability to conduct research and compile information from various sources.	Essential
Strong verbal communication skills for effective collaboration with scientists and stakeholders.	Essential
Proficient IT skills including MS Office suite, SharePoint, Adobe Creative Cloud and GraphPad Prism.	Essential
Excellent organisational skills, flexibility and the ability to manage changing priorities.	Essential
Excellent documentation skills, in particular organising data for publications/grants.	Essential
Intellectual curiosity, and strong motivation to learn and stay up to date with relevant scientific literature.	Essential
Team player, but also confident working independently with the ability to take initiative.	Essential
The ability to interpret experimental data.	Essential

Experience

Writing manuscripts for scientific publication.	Essential
Writing engaging social media content.	Essential
Coordinating and delivering high quality written documentation and/or presentations on time to meet stakeholder needs.	Essential
Involvement in writing grant applications and/or proposals.	Desirable
Writing content for, and updating websites.	Desirable
Setting up and maintaining data storage systems.	Desirable
Graphic design (e.g., generating graphics for websites and schematics for manuscripts).	Desirable
Responsible use of AI tools for content creation and analytics.	Desirable

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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 Fiona Dziegiel for further information by emailing Fiona.Dziegiel@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.