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# Senior Scientific Officer Candidate Information

August 2026

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## 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.

### Centre for in vivo modelling

The Centre for In Vivo Modelling is a newly established research centre within the **Division of Cancer Biology** at the ICR. Our scientists and clinical researchers use state-of-the-art in vivo models to address fundamental questions in cancer biology, with the ultimate aim of identifying curative treatments. We also serve as a collaborative hub across the ICR and **The Royal Marsden**, providing cutting-edge expertise in advanced mouse genetics and humanised in vivo models of cancer.

**Professor Kamil R Kranc**, Chair of **Haemato-Oncology**, serves as the Centre's Director, while **Fabiana Muzzonigro** is the Centre Administrator.

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### **Main purpose of the job**

This post will support a newly established research group within the Division of Cancer Biology and the Centre for In Vivo Modelling, investigating the mechanisms of tumour immune evasion and developing next-generation cancer immunotherapies. The laboratory's research focuses on understanding how tumour-intrinsic genetic alterations shape the tumour immune microenvironment, with particular emphasis on macrophage biology and therapeutic resistance across gastrointestinal cancers and liver metastasis.

The research programme integrates advanced genetically engineered and autochthonous mouse models, in vivo genome editing, molecular biology, multicolour and spectral flow cytometry, single-cell and spatial profiling technologies, and preclinical therapeutic development.

The successful candidate will play a leading role in establishing and optimising experimental platforms, developing innovative methodologies, and providing technical expertise across multiple research projects. Working closely with the Group Leader and collaborating researchers, the post holder will contribute to experimental design, data interpretation, supervision and training of laboratory members, and the implementation of new technologies. The post holder will also be expected to ensure the efficient day-to-day operation of the laboratory, maintain the highest standards of scientific quality, reproducibility and regulatory compliance, and contribute to publications, grant applications and collaborative research activities.

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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

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Department / division:</b>   | Division of Cancer Biology, Centre for In Vivo Modelling                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Pay grade / staff group:</b> | Senior Scientific Officer, Scientific Professional Grade 03                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Hours / duration:</b>        | Full time (35 hours per week), Monday to Friday. Fixed term contract for 3 years                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Reports to:</b>              | Group Leader, Dr David Kung-Chung Chiu                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Accountable to:</b>          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Main purpose of the job:</b> | The objective of this post is to provide scientific and technical leadership in establishing and operating advanced in vivo cancer modelling and immunology platforms, while contributing to the development of innovative therapeutic strategies. |

### Duties and responsibilities:

#### Key Duties

|                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Design, establish and maintain genetically engineered and autochthonous mouse models of gastrointestinal cancers.                                                                |
| Perform in vivo genome editing using hydrodynamic delivery, electroporation and CRISPR-based approaches.                                                                         |
| Perform orthotopic tumour implantation, spontaneous metastasis studies and complex mouse surgical procedures.                                                                    |
| Develop and optimise molecular cloning, plasmid construction and genome engineering workflows.                                                                                   |
| Perform multicolour/spectral flow cytometry, tissue dissociation and comprehensive immune phenotyping.                                                                           |
| Develop and implement spatial biology, single-cell and other high-dimensional profiling approaches.                                                                              |
| Design and perform biochemical and cellular assays to characterise antibody glycosylation, Fc-mediated immune responses, antibody function and mechanisms of therapeutic action. |
| Analyse complex biological datasets and communicate findings to collaborators.                                                                                                   |
| Train and supervise students, technicians and postdoctoral researchers                                                                                                           |

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Lead laboratory organisation, equipment management and implementation of new experimental platforms.

Contribute to manuscripts, grant applications and collaborative research.

### 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.

### Workforce Agreement

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).

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### Person specification

#### Education and Knowledge

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| PhD in cancer biology, immunology, molecular biology or a related discipline                                    | Essential |
| Strong knowledge of tumour immunology, cancer biology and molecular cloning                                     | Essential |
| Expertise in <i>in vivo</i> cancer modelling                                                                    | Essential |
| Familiarity with immune cell functional assays                                                                  | Essential |
| Extensive experience with sophisticated mouse models of cancer                                                  | Essential |
| Experience with <i>in vivo</i> genome editing, CRISPR technologies and molecular                                | Essential |
| Expertise in multicolour/spectral flow cytometry and immune phenotyping                                         | Essential |
| Experience in tumour immunology                                                                                 | Essential |
| Strong track record of leading and publishing independent research projects in peer-reviewed journals.          | Essential |
| Experience with primary liver tumour and liver metastasis models                                                | Desirable |
| Experience in antibody engineering, antibody therapeutics, Fc receptor biology or Fc-mediated immune mechanisms | Desirable |
| Experience supervising junior researchers and managing collaborative projects                                   | Essential |

#### Skills

|                                                                                                                              |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Ability to establish and implement new experimental platforms and laboratory workflows                                       | Essential |
| Ability to independently design and troubleshoot complex experimental studies.                                               | Essential |
| Excellent organisational and project management skills, with the ability to prioritise multiple projects and meet deadlines. | Essential |
| Excellent written and oral communication skills, including scientific writing and presentation of research findings.         | Essential |
| Ability to work independently while contributing effectively within a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment. | Essential |

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### Benefits

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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 Kamil Kranc for further information by emailing [kamil.kranc@icr.ac.uk](mailto:kamil.kranc@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.