ICR The Institute of Cancer Research

Data Curator/Engineer
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. 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 are consistently in the top performing universities in the league table of university research quality compiled from the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014 & 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 Clinical Trials and Statistics Unit (ICR-CTSU)

Under the Directorship of Professor Emma Hall, the ICR-CTSU is an internationally recognised, methodologist-led academic clinical trials unit (CTU), with over 30 years' experience in the design, conduct and analysis of cancer clinical trials. ICR-CTSU receives programmatic core funding from Cancer Research UK and is a UK Clinical Research Collaborative Registered CTU.

ICR-CTSU translates cutting-edge science into quality clinical trials that can transform cancer care, by:

- Leading patient-centred trials of smarter, kinder therapies that treat cancer more precisely
- Transforming how we design and conduct trials with innovations in trial methodology
- Learning as much as we can with integrated translational research and data science
- Championing purposeful and inclusive patient and public involvement
- Embedding research to improve the sustainability of our trials
- Supporting interdisciplinary training to empower the next generation of trialists

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ICR-CTSU is a key part of the ICR/Royal Marsden Centre for Trials and Population Data Science. The Centre brings together expertise from both institutions to advance methods-based, methodologist-led research to improve cancer research outcomes and quality.

ICR-CTSU's portfolio of national and international trials covers a wide range of disease sites from common cancers (e.g. breast, prostate, lung) through to rarer malignancies (e.g. ovarian, testicular, penile). Our trials cover the full spectrum of trial phases, from early-stage evaluation to large confirmatory trials. Our expertise in intervention assessment includes novel targeted drugs and immunotherapy, hormonal therapies and chemotherapy, radiotherapy (including advanced targeted technologies), drug-drug and drug-radiotherapy combinations, imaging technologies and diagnostics/companion diagnostics. Our cross-cutting Integrative Genomic Analysis team facilitates interrogation of the wealth of emerging trial data to better understand mechanisms of action and markers of treatment sensitivity or resistance, and to translate novel diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic strategies into clinically relevant biomarker-driven trial designs.

ICR-CTSU Integrative Genomic Analysis in Clinical Trials, under the academic leadership of Dr Maggie Cheang, is a multidisciplinary team that includes statistical, computational, and translational scientists, and analyses large datasets generated from biospecimens collected in clinical trials to study the underlying biology of tumours.

The Paediatric Oncology Experimental Medicine (POEM) Centre and Stratified Medicine Paediatric Genomic Sequencing of Relapsed Childhood Cancers – Dr Sally George

The POEM Centre at ICR supports a Centre of Excellence in the diagnosis, treatment and biological characterisation of childhood cancer. It hosts several nationally leading programmes in drug development, cancer modelling, experimental clinical trials and molecular diagnostic studies to characterise the genetic, epigenetic, immune and microenvironmental landscape of childhood tumours. Stratified Medicine Paediatrics (SMPaeds1 and 2) are pivotal studies led from POEM at ICR by Dr Sally George, which has sequenced over 850 relapsing childhood tumours since 2019, generating a wealth of data on mechanisms of relapse and resistance to cancer treatment (https://news.cancerresearchuk.org/2023/11/20/5-5-million-to-improve-treatment-for-children-and-young-people-whose-cancer-has-returned/).
Additionally, the programme developed three genomic assays that are now commissioned by NHS as clinical reference tests. The formal biostatistical validation of genomic assays for use by NHS as formal diagnostic and prognostic biomarker tests is a major activity of the Centre.

Further information is available at:

ICR www.icr.ac.uk | **Facebook** www.facebook.com/theinstituteofcancerresearch

ICR-CTSU www.icr.ac.uk/research-and-discoveries/centres-and-strategic-collaborations/clinical-trials-and-statistics-unit-icr-ctsu | **Bluesky** @icr-ctsu.bsky.social

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Job Description

Department / division:	Clinical Trials and Statistics Unit (ICR-CTSU), Division of Clinical Studies
Pay grade / staff group:	Analytical Scientist 2
Hours / duration:	Full time (35 hours per week), Monday to Friday. Fixed term contract for 2 years.
Reports to:	ICR-CTSU Group Leader
Line management:	Biomarker Data Analyst
Main purpose of the job:	Under the direction of the ICR-CTSU Biomarker Data Analyst and Group Leader, this new post will work with multi-disciplinary colleagues including statisticians, trial managers, data managers, administrators, clinicians and clinical database and systems analysts to curate complete and correct data and facilitate efficient data centralisation and management within our studies and the StratMedPaediatrics programme.

Role Summary:

To reflect the on-going expansion and diversification of our clinical studies and trials portfolio, we would like to appoint a Data Curation/Engineer to support data management activities across our biologically-rich studies, particularly the new portfolio of paediatric cancer studies including the national Stratified Medicine Paediatrics (SMPaeds) programme (https://news.cancerresearchuk.org/2023/11/20/5-5-million-to-improve-treatment-for-children-and-young-people-whose-cancer-has-returned/) led by Dr Sally George at the Institute of Cancer Research.

Duties and responsibilities:

This post would suit an experienced data scientist with an interest in cancer research and experience in Electronic Data Capture (EDC), who would relish the opportunity to develop and support the standardisation of data management processes and quality systems within an academic environment. The post would work to set up data transformation/integration and **analysis pipelines, as well as data acquisition, for end-to-end data operating systems, e.g., PALANTIR Foundry (pipeline builder), cBioPortal,** or similar. Moreover, you would be expected to provide technical support on these systems, utilising your knowledge in Python (and R) programming languages.

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Duties and responsibilities

Initiation and Design of Clinical Trials

Specific duties and responsibilities will include some or all of the following, either directly or via supervision of the Group Leader:

Facilitating the standardisation of annotated biological and clinical data management processes including data validation, coding and reconciliation;
Reviewing established systems and processes to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and standardisation.
Attending and contributing to meetings of the Quality Assurance Review Team, providing expert data management input;
Assisting with the preparation and conduct of regulatory inspections;
Providing data management guidance and training to the trial teams as required;
Supporting the biostatisticians and biomarker analyst in the facilitation and organisation of the data management working group meetings;
Attending and contributing to ICR-CTSU and POEM regular team meetings, trial manager/data manager meetings.
Understanding how different biological and clinical data types interact in project-specific settings, with guidance from a team of Biostatisticians, Biomarker Data Analysts, and the Group Leader.
Familiarising with various end-to-end data operating systems and with setting up data integration/analysis pipelines on those systems.

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

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Person specification

Education and knowledge

First degree in Science/Health/IT/computer science or related field	Essential
Thorough knowledge and understanding of GCP and trial methodology	Desirable
Understanding of Phase II/III randomised clinical trials	Desirable

Skills and qualities

Effective oral and written communication skills	Essential
Excellent organisation and time management skills	Essential
Ability to maintain adherence to written procedures and clinical regulatory standards	Essential
Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to influence others when introducing new procedures	Essential
Initiative and ability to think logically or laterally to resolve problems	Essential
Ability to work independently and as part of a team	Essential
Attention to detail and quality focussed	Essential
Ability to mentor and train within data management	Desirable

Experience

A minimum of 2 years' data management experience within a clinical trials unit, CRO or pharmaceutical company	Desirable
Experience of developing of data management documentation (i.e. data management plans/guidelines/templates)	Essential
Use of trial administration and tracking systems	Desirable
Use of electronic data capture systems	Essential
Experience with InferMed's Macro clinical trial software	Desirable
Experience in database specification and testing	Desirable
Experience of querying databases and writing SQL Scripts	Desirable
Experience of database migration in a health service/clinical environment	Desirable
Experience of programming, using languages such as R or Python.	Essential
Experience in NoSQL database / structure (graph-based database)	Desirable

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Use of medical coding	Desirable
SOP review and development	Desirable
Previous oncology trials / research experience	Desirable

General

Ability to work independently and as part of a team	Essential
Ability to project a positive and professional image of the ICR-CTSU to both ICR and external collaborators	Essential
Ability to maintain adherence to written procedures and clinical and regulatory standards applicable to ICR-CTSU clinical trials	Essential
Experience of handling sensitive and confidential information	Desirable

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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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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. All positions at ICR-CTSU are eligible for discretionary hybrid working. 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

For general queries about the recruitment process, please contact ICR-CTSU, email: ctsu@icr.ac.uk.

This job description reflects the current position and is subject to review and alteration in detail and emphasis in the light of future changes or development.