



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Cancer Immunotherapy  
Faculty of Medicine and Health



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.)**

**Reference: MHLMR1002**

**Closing date: 6 January 2020**

**Fixed-term available from 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 - to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

***We are happy to consider job share applications and are committed to flexible working for all our employees***

## **Research Fellow in Cancer Immunotherapy Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's Faculty of Medicine and Health**

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in cancer biology and immunology? Do you want your research to have a direct impact on the identification of disease mechanisms and the development of new cancer treatments? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

You will pursue a project funded by the Medical Research Council UK, aimed at identifying the mechanisms underlying the activity of immune checkpoint inhibitors in melanoma brain metastases. The project is based on our recently published study (Taggart et al., 2018, PNAS) and it aims to understand the role of different immune cells in immune checkpoint inhibitor-mediated tumour inhibition in the brain, both at the cellular and molecular level. The project will integrate molecular and efficacy studies in preclinical models of brain metastases as well as in transgenic mouse models, with studies in human brain metastases tissue. The overarching goal is to identify strategies that could potentiate the efficacy of immunotherapy in melanoma brain metastases.

You should have a PhD in biological sciences plus 3-6 years postdoctoral experience, with a strong background in cancer biology and immunology. You will work according to the project timeline to fulfil the requirements of the grant, as well as use your initiative to creatively identify areas for research and extend the research portfolio of the project and group. You will work closely, interactively and collaboratively with project team so you will need excellent communication skills.

This post is based within the School of Medicine in the Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St. James's (LIMR). The post is located in the Wellcome Trust Brenner building at St. James's University Hospital.



## What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Performing experimental work, data analysis and generating hypotheses under the MRC-funded research grant (PI Dr. Mihaela Lörger; Co-Is Dr. Robert Salmond, Dr. Clive McKimmie, Dr. Neta Erez) to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Co-supervising and working in a team with a technician employed on the same project grant;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the relation to the immediate and future project goals ;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used, and proactively develop them further as required;
- Working independently and as part of a larger team of researchers, to develop research objectives, set the direction of the research project and team, proactively assess progression and suggest improvements, prepare collaborative funding proposals and engage in knowledge-transfer activities;
- Making a significant contribution to the dissemination of research results, through publications in leading international journals, independent reports and by presentation at group meetings/seminars and conferences;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, including acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues, training students and supervising projects, and maintaining your own continuing professional development.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

You will report to Dr Mihaela Lörger, Lecturer.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A first degree and PhD in biological sciences, with 3-6 years postdoctoral experience;





- Internationally competitive CV with competitive recent publication list (last 5 years) and a strong commitment to your own continuous professional development;
- Home Office personal license specifying rodents;
- A background in tumour immunology and neuro-oncology;
- Hands-on expertise in in vivo intracranial and subcutaneous tumour models;
- A background in in vivo immunology with a specific focus on T cells;
- Hands-on expertise with in vivo adoptive T cell transfer;
- Expertise in ex vivo T cell chemotaxis assays;
- Experience with flow cytometry and related data analysis;
- Expertise in tissue isolation from in vivo models and tissue processing, including lymph nodes;
- Flexible working hours to accommodate the occasional requirements of in vivo studies that span beyond the core working hours (i.e. experimental requirements and the need to monitor the animals);
- Proven ability to work independently, to develop your own ideas based on the excellent and up-to-date knowledge of the field (cancer and immunology), to work as part of a team, and willingness to learn.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Dr Mihaela Lorgier, Lecturer, Brain Metastasis Research Group**

Tel: +44 (0)113 2066511

Email: [m.lorgier@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:m.lorgier@leeds.ac.uk)



## Additional information

Find out more about [Dr. Mihaela Lorger](#) and her [wider research](#);

Find out more about the [Faculty of Medicine and Health](#) and the [School of Medicine](#);

Find out more about the [Leeds Institute of Medical Research at St James's](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

### Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

### Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

### Security checks

Appointment to this post will be subject to appropriate security checks being carried out with your permission by a third party company.

## Criminal record information

### Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

