

THE ROYAL MARSDEN NHS FOUNDATION TRUST
London and Surrey

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Clinical Fellow
BAND:	MN37
DEPARTMENT:	Drug Development Unit (DDU)
DIRECTORATE:	Cancer Services
HOURS OF WORK:	40
BASE LOCATION:	Sutton
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Juanita Lopez
ACCOUNTABLE TO:	Johann de Bono
LIAISES WITH:	DDU Consultants and physicians, nursing and admin staff

Overview of the Post

Background

New drug development at The Institute of Cancer Research and The Royal Marsden Hospital involves a multidisciplinary group of scientists and clinical and research staff committed to the preclinical and clinical development of new anticancer drugs. The Unit incorporates staff based in the CR-UK Centre for Cancer Therapeutics and the ICR Division of Clinical Studies. These multidisciplinary teams incorporate all aspects of modern drug discovery and development from target validation through high throughput screening and combinatorial chemistry to developmental pharmacology and clinical trial. Phase I clinical trials are conducted on the Drug Development Unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital. The Unit has an established track record in the development of new agents, a number of which have been registered in the UK and elsewhere. The group has extensive experience in developing novel rationally designed molecularly targeted anticancer drugs including agents involved in abrogating cell signalling, the cell cycle, inducing apoptosis and inhibiting angiogenesis.

The scope of activities on the Drug Development Unit has significantly increased in recent years. There are now 4 consultants/principal investigators involved in early clinical trials, Prof Johann de Bono, Dr Udai Banerji, Dr Tim Yap and Dr Juanita Lopez. A team of 9-10 research fellows are involved in both preclinical and clinical aspects of individual studies and the work is supported by a team of 23 Research Nurses, 9 Data Managers, 8 Clinical Trial Coordinators, a regulatory team and research support staff.

Over 500 patients per year, with a wide range of malignancies, are referred for Phase I studies.

Training Fellowship in the Drug Development Unit

We are offering a position for a Clinical Fellow in the Drug Development Unit that would be suitable for a medical oncology trainee, who wishes to gain specific experience in early clinical trials. As well as gaining extensive clinical experience working with novel targeted therapies in oncology (clinics, ward work and consultant led ward rounds), the post offers opportunities to be involved in trial presentation at national and international meetings and manuscript writing. The post holder would be taught about all aspects of Phase I trials in cancer including the following: protocol development, regulatory affairs, trial conduct in line with GCP, and aspects of trial clinical and administrative management – i.e. toxicity review teleconferences, decision making on dose escalation, correlation of clinical and laboratory findings (pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics) and of course the details of many new putative anticancer drug targets, often at a very early stage.

The post is available for a 12-24 month period. For suitable individuals, there may be opportunities for laboratory research at the end of the clinical fellowship.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities

Clinical Responsibility – patient care

Clinical Fellows are called upon to assist in the day-to-day management of phase I patients involved in studies, including outpatient and screening clinics and care of inpatients, including evening cover.

Additional responsibilities include:

- accrual of patients into studies, i.e. selection, screening and initial counseling
- informed consent and patient support
- collaboration with laboratory investigators
- liaison with study monitors and sponsors

For medical oncology trainees who hold a UK training number in this specialty this Fellowship could comprise part of their approved training programme.

Health & Safety: Duties may involve handling clinical samples

Education and Development Responsibility – own as well as the development of others

Protected time to allow for academic activities including the writing of abstracts and papers is included in the timetable.

Confidentiality and Data Protection Act

All employees of The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust must not, without prior permission, disclose any information regarding patients or staff (please also see the Trust's policy on Whistleblowing). In instances where it is known that a member of staff has communicated information to unauthorised persons, those staff will be liable to dismissal. Moreover, the Data Protection Act 1998 also renders an individual liable for prosecution in the event of unauthorised disclosure of information.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

All staff must be familiar with and adhere to the Trust's child protection and safeguarding adult policies and procedures. All staff are required to attend child protection and safeguarding adults awareness training, additional training and supervision regarding child protection relevant to their position and role.

Health and Safety

All staff are required to make positive efforts to maintain their own personal safety and that of others by taking reasonable care, carrying out requirements of the law whilst following recognised codes of practice and Trust policies on health and safety.

Customer Service Excellence

All staff are required to support the Trust's commitment to developing and delivering excellent customer-focused service by treating patients, their families, friends, carers and staff with professionalism, respect and dignity.

Emergency Planning

In accordance with the Trust's responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 all staff are required to undertake work and alternative duties as reasonably directed at variable locations in the event of and for the duration of a significant internal incident, major incident or pandemic.

Equal Opportunities

The aim of the Trust's policy is to ensure that no job applicant or employee is discriminated against either directly or indirectly on the grounds of race, creed, sex, marital status, disability, age, nationality, ethnic or national origins. The Trust commits itself to promote equal opportunities and will keep under review its policies, procedures and practices to ensure that all users and providers of its services are treated according to their needs. The policy also applies to staff working within the Trust.

No Smoking Policy

It is the policy of the Trust to promote health. Smoking is actively discouraged and is prohibited in most areas of the Hospital, including offices, with the exception of designated smoking areas on both sites.

Review of this Job Description

This job description is intended as an outline of the general areas of activity. It will be amended in the light of the changing needs of the organization, in which case it will be reviewed in conjunction with the post holder.

Terms and Conditions of Employment

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, meaning that any criminal conviction must be made known at the time of application.