**THE ROYAL MARSDEN NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

**In association with**

**THE INSTITUTE OF CANCER RESEARCH**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOW SARCOMA UNIT**

**Full time 40 HOURS**

**1 The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust**

**Introduction**

The Royal Marsden is recognised world-wide for the quality of its cancer services. The Trust’s strategic aim is to achieve excellence in cancer treatment and diagnosis, through partnership and collaboration. The Royal Marsden with its associated Institute of Cancer Research constitutes a centre of excellence for research and development, education, treatment and care in cancer. It is acknowledged to be one of the largest comprehensive Cancer Centres in the world.

The prime purpose of the Trust is the provision of state of the art cancer services as well as enabling research into the development of improved methods of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Its other main purpose is teaching and the dissemination of knowledge both nationally and internationally. In 1991 it became the first NHS hospital to be awarded the Queen’s Award for Technology for its work on drug development. The hospital gained National Charter Mark Awards in 1995, 1998, 2001 and again in 2008 for the excellence of its services and achieved the international quality standard ISO 9001 for radiotherapy in 1996 and for chemotherapy in 2003. The Royal Marsden has consistently been awarded three stars and more recently double excellent rating in the NHS performance indicators, rating it among the nation’s best in terms of clinical quality and patient care.

The Royal Marsden is one of 17 member NHS provider organisations in the London Cancer Alliance (LCA), which was established in 2011 as the integrated cancer system (ICS) across west and south London. The LCA works to provide comprehensive, integrated cancer patient pathways and services within formal, governed structures to drive improvements in patient outcomes and experience for the populations served.

As a leading Cancer Centre, the Trust has close working relationships with many Cancer Units and other Cancer Centres. Predominantly the Trust’s workload is from within the former South West and West London Cancer Networks but the Trust is unique in having a high out-of-area referral rate for rare cancers, recurrent disease and treatment-related problems. The Trust forms a joint cancer centre with St George’s Healthcare NHS Trust.

The Royal Marsden comprises two sites (87 in patient beds and an 8-bedded day unit at Chelsea, London and 113 beds including paediatrics at Sutton, Surrey as well as ambulatory care facilities for medical and surgical oncology patients). Over 40,000 patients attend the Royal Marsden each year. The Trust employs approximately 3600 staff, including 335 medical staff. As a specialist cancer centre, the Trust serves local populations within the London Boroughs of Merton, Sutton, Wandsworth, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster, as well as receiving referrals both nationally and internationally.

Since April 2011 The Royal Marsden has also provided Sutton and Merton’s Community Services, offering a diverse range of services within a number of different health and social care settings. Community and school nurses, health visitors, physiotherapists and sexual health clinics are among the many areas of Sutton and Merton Community Services (SMCS).

The Royal Marsden supports a number of junior doctor training programmes and provides core training across a wide range of tumours in Clinical and Medical Oncology and Surgery (including gynaecological cancer, gastro-intestinal cancer, breast cancer, sarcoma and melanoma). The Trust also participates in rotations for the training of junior doctors in Anaesthesia, Pain and Intensive Care Medicine.

**Organisation**

The Trust Board comprises an independent chair Mr R. Ian Molson, executive directors (Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Nurse, Director of Finance, Medical Director), and five non-executive directors from outside the NHS.

The Trust Chief Executive Officer is Miss C Palmer, CBE

The Trust Medical Director is Dr N van As

The Trust Finance Director is Mr M Thorman

The Trust Chief Operating Officer is Mr Karl Munslow Ong

The Trust Chief Nurse is Dr E Sullivan

The Royal Marsden the hospital management structure is organised into three Divisions: Cancer Services, Clinical Services and Private Care. Each Division is managed by a Divisional Director and supported by a Divisional Medical Director and Divisional Clinical Nurse Director. The consultants heading up each Clinical Unit or specialty is a member of the Medical Advisory Committee. This is chaired by the Medical Director, who together with the other directors (Chief Nurse, Finance, IT, Strategy & Service Development, Projects, HR, Private Practice and Estates) and the Divisional Directors form the Management Executive. The Management Executive is chaired by the Chief Executive, Miss Cally Palmer.

The Sarcoma Unit sits within the Division for Cancer Services. The Unit Head is Dr Robin Jones.

The units within both divisions are as follows:

**Cancer Services Division:** Breast Unit, Gynaecology Unit, Gastro-Intestinal Unit, Lung Unit, Urological Unit,Sarcoma Unit, Head & Neck Unit, Haemato-oncology Unit, Neuro-oncology Unit, Paediatric Unit, Thyroid Unit, Skin & Melanoma Unit, Plastic Surgery Unit, Drug Development Unit.

**Clinical Services Division:** Anaesthetics and Intensive Care/High Dependency, Pain Service, Clinical Pharmacology, Cancer Genetics, Palliative Care, Pathology, Imaging, Therapeutic Radiotherapy, Theatres and Day Surgery, Nuclear Medicine, Physics, Pharmacy, Medical Records, Patient Transport, Rehabilitation Department (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Speech Therapy, Lymphoedema Service, Therapeutic Massage, Pastoral Care, Clinical Psychology, Complementary Therapies, Patient Information, Volunteer Services, Community Liaison, Social Services). The Divisional Director for Clinical Services is Mr Jonathan Spencer; the Divisional Medical Director is Dr Tim Wigmore; the Divisional Clinical Nurse Director is Ms Justine Hofland.

In addition the Divisions are supported by the following Directorates:

**Nursing, Risk and Quality Assurance Directorate** comprising:

**Quality Assurance, Risk Management, Research, Practice and Professional Development Department.**

Finance Directorate

Human Resources Directorate

Computing and Information Directorate

Facilities Directorate

**Private Practice Directorate**

There are excellent outpatient private practice facilities within both branches of the Royal Marsden Hospital which have recently been extensively refurbished and expanded.

## 2. The Institute of Cancer Research

The ICR is one of the world’s most influential cancer research institutes, with an outstanding record of achievement dating back more than 100 years. The ICR provided the first convincing evidence that DNA damage is the basic cause of cancer, laying the foundation for the now universally accepted idea that cancer is a genetic disease. Today, the ICR leads the world at isolating cancer-related genes and discovering new targeted drugs for personalised cancer treatment.

As a college of the University of London, the ICR provides postgraduate higher education of international distinction. It has charitable status and relies on support from partner organisations, charities and the general public.

The ICR’s mission is to make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

**ICR Research and Funding**

The ICR has an unrivalled track record in research, whether in cancer biology, genetics, personalised therapies or new drug discoveries. More than 1,000 staff and students contribute to its outstanding record of achievement.

The ICR has laboratories and offices in Chelsea, central London, and Sutton, Greater London, and is structured into eight research divisions:

* Breast cancer research
* Cancer biology
* Cancer therapeutics
* Clinical studies
* Genetics and epidemiology
* Molecular pathology
* Radiotherapy and imaging
* Structural biology

The majority of research funding comes from external grant-giving organisations such as Cancer Research UK, Breakthrough Breast Cancer and the Wellcome Trust.

As a UK higher education institution, the ICR also receives substantial public funding directly from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). This money is awarded in direct recognition of the ICR’s scientific excellence, which is measured every five years by the Research Excellence Framework (REF). In the last assessment in 2008, the ICR came first in the Times Higher Education tables - the authoritative interpretation of the data – making it the UK’s leading academic research centre.

**3. The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and The Institute of Cancer Research**

The Royal Marsden and the ICR work in close partnership and together are rated in the top four cancer centres globally. This unique partnership and ‘bench-to-bedside’ approach allows The Royal Marsden and the ICR to create and deliver results through translational research in a way that other institutions cannot.

In 2006 The Royal Marsden and the ICR were awarded a grant from The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to set up the UK’s only designated Biomedical Research Centre for Cancer, which drives pioneering research into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer, and to translate advances in biomedical research into patient benefits. This acknowledges our position as the leading academic and clinical partnership for cancer in the UK.

Funded through the Biomedical Research Centre for Cancer, the Centre for Molecular Pathology is enhancing the capacity to deliver personalised, targeted treatments by bringing together research teams and clinicians from The Royal Marsden and the ICR in one state-of-the-art facility. This partnership will help to rapidly translate basic research discoveries into benefit for cancer patients.

**4. The Royal Marsden Sarcoma Unit**

The Sarcoma Unit of the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust has an international reputation, treating predominantly soft tissue sarcomas. The team is seeing increasing numbers of newly diagnosed patients, who require multidisciplinary management, which may involve chemotherapy as well as surgery and radiotherapy. Palliation of advanced and recurrent disease also forms a significant proportion of the workload. This complex patient load requires considerable clinical input from the medical oncology team within the Sarcoma Unit. The number of new sarcoma patients seen has been increasing by 15% each year and has doubled since 2004, to exceed 800 in 2010. There has been a concomitant increase in the number of patients treated as day cases, regular day attendees and ward attendees. Following publication of the NICE Improving Outcomes Guidance (IOG) for People with Sarcoma in May 2005, which stipulated that all patients with sarcoma should be managed in collaboration with a properly constituted Sarcoma Multidisciplinary Team, a further increase in referrals has been observed, with more than 800 new patients with a diagnosis of sarcoma now being seen each year.

The Sarcoma Unit has a large portfolio of clinical trials and is an active recruiter of patients to NCRN studies, including those being run by the NCRI Sarcoma Clinical Studies Group, the EORTC Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group and in addition, Pharma Company sponsored studies. The number of trials has increased significantly in the last few years and the support team now comprises a Clinical Trial Coordinator, 2 Research Nurses and a Data Manager, together with Clinical Research Fellows. The unit has many young trainees from the UK and elsewhere who wish to train in sarcoma care and can spend up to a year in the Unit. The unit also has Research Fellows undertaking laboratory work for higher degrees in the sarcoma field. The senior Medical Oncology Consultant is Professor Ian Judson.

**Sarcoma Unit members**

**Head of Unit** Dr Robin Jones

**Surgeons**

Mr Myles Smith

Mr Andrew Hayes

Mr Dirk Strauss

Mr Aamir Khan

**Medical Oncologists**

Dr Charlotte Benson

Dr Robin Jones

Dr Spyridon Gennatas

**Clinical Oncologists**

Dr Aisha Miah

Dr Shane Zaidi

**Radiologists**

Dr Christina Messiou

Dr Eleanor Moskovic

Dr Romney Pope

**Pathologists**

Dr Khin Thway

Dr Magnus Hallin

**Clinical Nurse Specialists**

Ms Angela Teague

Ms Alison Dunlop

Ms Kelly McKibbin

Secretarial and information support are provided by the multi-disciplinary unit system within which the appointee will work.

**5. The Post**

**Role of Clinical Research Fellow**

We are offering a position for a Clinical Fellow in the Sarcoma unit that would be suitable for a Medical Oncology Trainee who wishes to gain experience in management of soft tissue sarcoma. The research fellow has particular responsibility for patients in the Sarcoma unit participating in clinical trials. The role includes attending the two weekly multidisciplinary team meetings and relevant out-patient clinics to highlight potential participants to be recruited to trials; consenting patients, assessing and recording acute and late toxicities, reporting adverse events and performing response assessment. General duties will include assisting with other clinical studies, general out-patient duties and support the Specialist Registrar on the Unit as well as working closely with all members of the research team.

The Trust is the largest training centre in clinical and medical oncology in the country. In medical oncology the Trust collaborates with other training centres, through the Pan-Thames Training Committee, to provide training in all aspects of medical oncology necessary for the MRCP and the CCT. All consultants are expected to be involved in the training of Specialist Trainees, Specialist Registrars and visiting trainees. In addition, collaboration in training programmes for radiographers, nurses and allied health professionals is expected. The post holder will be expected to:

We believe that this post provides oncologists with a good training in the care of patients with a wide variety of soft tissue sarcomas and would represent a sound basis for someone who wishes to specialise in the management of these diseases. Candidates learn about many aspects of clinical trials in cancer including regulatory affairs, adverse event reporting, response assessment and, on occasion, protocol writing. There is ample scope for contributing to writing papers and our fellows have a good track record of publication. There is protected time to allow for academic activities in the timetable

**Research**

Research is a very high priority for the Trust and there are many active research programmes within the Sarcoma Unit which are open to collaboration. The Unit has a long established track record for clinical and translational research in conjunction with the Institute of Cancer Research.

**Training**

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**7. General Information**

**Main Terms and Conditions**

The clinical fellow contract arrangements will apply.

**Salary**

The salary scale will be that applying under the clinical fellow arrangements.

**Continuing Medical Education**

The appointee will be required to meet, as a minimum, the requirements of his/her Royal College in respect of continuing medical education.

**Protecting Patients and Guiding Doctors**

The Trust supports fully the General Medical Council’s performance procedures designed to protect patients and guide doctors. In the context of a doctor’s fitness to practice, the Trust requires all doctors to follow the GMC’s principles of Good Medical Practice, which encourage and promotes effective self-regulation.

**Confidentiality**

All information concerning patients and staff must be held in the strictest confidence and may not be divulged to any unauthorised person at any time, unless to do so is in the best interest of the individual. In this instance the post holder should be appropriately advised by a Senior Manager. A breach of confidentiality will result in disciplinary action being taken in accordance with the Trusts’ disciplinary procedures and may lead to dismissal.

Computer data should only be accessed if this has been authorised and is necessary as part of your work. Unauthorised access to computer data or helping others to access such data will result in disciplinary action being taken in accordance with the Trusts’ disciplinary procedures and may lead to dismissal.

The post holder's attention is drawn to the Data Protection Act 1984 and the Computer Misuse Act 1990.

**Safety**

The post holder has personal responsibility for safety as outlined in the Trusts’ Health & Safety Policies and the Health & Safety Work Act 1974.

**Smoking**

The RMT has implemented a No Smoking Policy which applies to all staff.

**Dress Code**

All staff are expected to abide by the Trusts’ dress codes.

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.

**Visiting the Department**

Applicants are invited and encouraged to visit the department informally by arrangement. The Trust is not empowered to pay travelling expenses or a subsistence allowance in connection with any such visits.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**FELLOW IN MEDICAL ONCOLOGY – Sarcoma UNIT**

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|  | Essential Criteria | Desirable Criteria |
| Qualifications | Eligible for full GMC registration.  Experience in Medical Oncology at Specialist Registrar level or equivalent  MRCP or equivalent | Higher degree |
| Experience | A broad-based experience in sarcoma oncology, including systemic therapies  Experience in clinical research | Publications in peer reviewed journals |
| Skills, Abilities & Knowledge | Interest and experience in the management cancer patients  Professional skills of a high standard |  |
| Personal Qualities | The ability to work in collaboration with the wider sarcoma team  Good communication skills |  |
| Any Other Factors Relating to this Post |  |  |