# Job description and selection criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Job title</strong></th>
<th>Translational Scientist - Drug Discovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division</strong></td>
<td>Medical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department</strong></td>
<td>Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Structural Genomics Consortium, Old Road Campus Research Building, Headington, Oxford</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grade and salary</strong></td>
<td>Grade 8: £39,992 - £47,722 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>Full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contract type</strong></td>
<td>Fixed-term until 31st March 2021 in the first instance.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting to</strong></td>
<td>Prof Paul Brennan, Prof Alex Bullock</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vacancy reference</strong></td>
<td>134445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional information</strong></td>
<td>Security screening may be required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research topic</strong></td>
<td>Drug Discovery for Inflammation and Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Investigator / supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Paul Brennan and Alex Bullock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project team</strong></td>
<td>Cassandra Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project web site</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.thesgc.org/chemical-probes">www.thesgc.org/chemical-probes</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding partner</strong></td>
<td>BRC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The role

The SGC (Structural Genomics Consortium) is seeking a senior scientist with leadership qualities to catalyse the translation of small molecule inhibitors identified within the SGC into clinical candidates for early stage clinical trials. The successful applicant will liaise with SGC staff and their collaborators to identify novel clinical opportunities, establish translational research plans, secure funding, and manage these projects through existing research teams within the SGC and its collaborative network, both local and international, with the aim of taking the project through into clinical trials. This new post is part of a novel collaboration between the SGC and the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, a partnership between the University of Oxford and Oxford University Hospitals, funded by the National Institute for Health Research. The post is suitable for non-clinical scientists with experience in small molecule drug discovery.

By working closely with a large network of academic and industry partners, the SGC has established a pipeline for early stage drug discovery, ranging from initial chemical hits through to highly potent and selective chemical probes, as well as donated chemical probes and clinical molecules from a large network of pharma companies. These compounds have been shared openly and used by thousands of research groups worldwide to link novel targets to disease phenotypes. The SGC would like to translate the output of this global crowd-sourced research exercise into clinical therapeutics focused initially on inflammation, cancer and rare diseases. The successful applicant with will report to Prof Paul Brennan and Prof Alex Bullock (SGC).

Responsibilities

1. To develop intimate knowledge of the SGC’s chemical probe collection through internal and published literature as well as through the knowledge of the SGC’s large collaborative network.
2. To use this knowledge to proactively identify novel molecules and targets for clinical translation or drug repurposing
3. To identify potential clinical research partners within the University of Oxford, as well as external including potential industry partners and CROs.
4. In conjunction with SGC and collaborators, you will help produce detailed translational research plans, covering lead development (including PK and ADMET), disease models and pre-clinical efficacy data, biomarkers and patient populations.
5. To identify translational grant funding opportunities to support this work and to take a leading role in preparing such applications with the aid of SGC and its partners.
6. To drive the development and execution of successfully funded translational research grants to ensure the maximum impact. You will oversee the management of each project, coordinating with other PIs to progress these within existing Oxford University research teams. You will give careful consideration to throughput, timelines, potential pitfalls, bottlenecks and dependencies.
7. To prepare regular reports and presentations to update the SGC, collaborators and industry partners of major achievements and challenges, as well as to arrange regular internal project meetings and to contribute to joint publications.
8. To act as an ambassador for this programme and to proactively build an extensive network of collaborators in academia, biotech and pharma, leveraging maximum value from the programmes’ deliverables.
9. To participate in and support the public engagement and widening access activities of the Department and the University. This is anticipated to be not more than 2 days per year.

Additional security pre-employment checks
This job includes the following duties which will require additional security pre-employment checks:

- A satisfactory Disclosure Scotland check due to access to sensitive/financial/highly sensitive personal/valuable items or information.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

1. PhD or equivalent experience in a biomedical research field
2. Significant post-doctoral, or industrial experience in small molecule drug discovery.
3. Successful record of securing grant funding for basic science or drug discovery.
4. Good knowledge of biological mechanisms of disease and of the challenges of developing small molecule inhibitors.
5. Experience of managing a project, demonstrating ability to work as part of a team and to collaborate with colleagues on a range of diverse projects.
6. A good publication record in biomedical science, including experience of independently writing scientific reports and manuscripts.
7. Outstanding interpersonal and communication skills; gravitas to present science and establish new collaborations.

Desirable selection criteria

1. Medicinal chemistry experience.
2. Experience working in a translational centre or pharmaceutical research organisation.
3. Extensive knowledge of UK funding biomedical research funding agencies.

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford’s researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all of our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, we
aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual’s unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge.

Oxford is one of Europe’s most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2014/15 exceeded £522.9m and ranked first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 spin-off companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Medical Sciences

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching.

We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: www.medsci.ox.ac.uk

Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM)

The Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM) is one of the largest departments of the University of Oxford and is part of the Medical Sciences Division, with responsibility for a significant part of the teaching of clinical students within the Medical School. The Department also has a substantial research programme which requires high quality administrative management.

NDM has significant financial turnover and complexity, resulting from its diverse research portfolio, its geographical spread and its close links with NHS funding and strategic teams involved in the development and delivery of increasingly integrated clinical research platforms.

...fostering your career in science

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home

The University of Oxford is a member of the Athena SWAN Charter and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award. The Nuffield Department of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/athena-swan
NDM Unit Information

Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC)

The Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC), a not-for-profit, public-private partnership funds pre-competitive research that contributes to new hypotheses in understanding and treating human disease, and the subsequent identification of new targets for drug discovery. The SGC supports pioneering research at the University of Oxford (UK), University of Toronto (Canada), University of Campinas (Brazil), and University of North Carolina (USA). The reagents and knowledge related to human proteins that the SGC supports are made openly accessible to researchers around the world to accelerate the discovery of new medicines in order to bring potentially life-saving drugs to market faster and at a lower cost.

SGC Oxford, a part of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, receives funding from public, charitable and private sector organisations such as the European Commission, UK Research Councils, Wellcome Trust, and pharmaceutical companies. Research in SGC Oxford is focused on the production and characterisation of the 3-dimensional structures of soluble and of integral membrane proteins, the discovery of selective chemical probes that can modulate protein function, and the development of target enabling packages that transform genetic hits into starting points for drug discovery. SGC Oxford shares its research outputs through collaborations with researchers worldwide.

For more information please visit: http://www.thesgc.org/scientists/groups/oxford/

Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences

The Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS) is part of the Medical Sciences Division and is the largest European academic department in its field, running a globally competitive programme of research and teaching.

Our mission is to discover the causes of musculoskeletal and inflammatory conditions to deliver excellent and innovative care that improves people’s quality of life. Our highly skilled teams have expertise in a broad range of areas, including orthopaedic surgery, inflammation, immunology, rheumatology, medical statistics, epidemiology, and clinical trials.

We currently have 500 staff and students and over 100 honorary staff, have a grants portfolio worth £100 million, and an annual turnover in excess of £30 million.

The Botnar Research Centre enables and encourages research and education into the causes of musculoskeletal disease and their treatment.

Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology is world famous for its discovery of anti-TNF therapy for the treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, which has established the current standard of care and heralded the wider use of biologic drugs to treat chronic disease. The Institute carries out fundamental research in the areas of immunity and microbiome, inflammation biology and tissue remodelling and regeneration, with the long-term objective of ‘translating’ this research into clinical application. The major diseases of interest are rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, inflammatory bowel disease and cancer.
How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the ‘Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford’ document, at www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/.

If you would like to apply, click on the Apply Now button on the ‘Job Details’ page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents as PDF files with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by midday on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments).

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. Please check your spam/junk mail regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references.
We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:
www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at grade 8 and above. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revaim/.

For existing employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revproc/

Form 1 October 2017, there is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at grades 1–7 have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Benefits of working at the University

**Training and Development**
A range of training and development opportunities are available at the University. Further details can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html.

**For research staff only: Support for Research Staff**
There is a particularly wide range of support for career development for research staff. Please visit: www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers to find out more.

**Pensions**
The University offers generous occupational pension schemes for eligible staff members. Further details can be found at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epl/pensions/pensionspolicy/.

**Information for international staff (or those relocating from another part of the UK)**
A wealth of information is available on the University's International Staff website for staff who are relocating to Oxford from abroad, at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/.

**The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club**
The Newcomers' Club is aimed at helping partners of newly-arrived visiting scholars, graduate students and academic members of the University to settle in and to meet people in Oxford.

**Transport schemes**
The University offers a range of travel schemes and public transport travel discounts to staff. Full details are available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/.
University Club and University Sports Facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a Club bar, a cafe and sporting facilities, including a gym. See www.club.ox.ac.uk for all further details.

University staff can use the University Sports Centre at discounted rates, and have the chance to join sports clubs. Please visit www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Childcare and Childcare Vouchers

The University offers quality childcare provision services at affordable prices to its employees. For full details about the services offered, please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/. NB: Due to the high demand for the University’s nursery places there is a long waiting list.

The University also offers nursery fee payment schemes to eligible staff as an opportunity to save tax and national insurance on childcare costs. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Disabled staff

The University is committed to supporting members of staff with a disability or long-term health condition and has a dedicated Staff Disability Advisor. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff for further details.

BUPA - Eduhealth

Bupa Eduhealth Essentials private medical insurance offers special rates for University of Oxford staff and their families www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site/.

All other benefits

For other benefits, such as free entry to colleges, the Botanic Gardens and staff discounts offered by third party companies, please see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/.