



Job title	Postdoctoral Research Scientist
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Nuffield Department of Medicine
Location	CAMS Oxford Institute, Building for Molecular Physiology, Roosevelt Drive, Old Road Campus, Oxford, OX3 7BN
Grade and salary	Grade 7: Salary in range £36,024 - £38,205 per annum
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term contract for 3 years Funding is provided by the CRUK
Reporting to	Ricardo Fernandes, COI Principle Investigator
Vacancy reference	170571

Additional information	This role meets the eligibility requirements for a Skilled Worker Certificate of Sponsorship or a Global Talent Visa under UK Visas and Immigration legislation. Therefore, the Nuffield Department of Medicine welcomes applications from international applicants who require a visa.
About us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Oxford - www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation • Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM) - https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk • Unit - https://www.camsoxford.ox.ac.uk/
What we offer	https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/staff-benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An excellent contributory pension scheme • 38 days annual leave • A comprehensive range of childcare services • Family leave schemes • Cycle loan scheme • Discounted bus travel and Season Ticket travel loans • Membership to a variety of social and sports clubs • A welcoming and diverse community



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The role

You will join the research group of Dr Ricardo A. Fernandes. Our group develops novel tools to define and potentiate antitumor responses by cells of the immune system. We seek a highly-motivated and talented Postdoctoral Research Scientist to join our team in working to understand fundamental principles of peptide antigen recognition and co-receptor signalling. The research focus is primarily on cancer immunotherapy but with broader implications to infection and autoimmunity.

Our group is well placed to carry out studies on the modulation of immune cell function in health and disease, including antigen discovery and the development of novel approaches to potentiate T cell responses. We take advantage of novel protein engineering approaches to control immune cell function and interrogate fundamental aspects of cell signalling. We benefit from the outstanding infrastructure and support provided by COI and the Nuffield Department of Medicine. You will have a background in immunology, with a strong emphasis on biochemistry, including the analysis of signalling pathways and a structural understanding of protein design and function. You will join a lively, supportive and motivated interdisciplinary group of scientists with access to world-class facilities and outstanding opportunities to advance your scientific career.

Responsibilities

You will:

- Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small-scale project management to coordinate multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines.
- Adapt existing and develop new scientific techniques and experimental protocols. Use specialist scientific equipment in a laboratory environment.
- Test hypotheses and analyse scientific data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining working hypotheses as appropriate.
- Develop and contribute ideas for new research projects and generating research income, and present detailed research proposals to senior researchers.
- Collaborate in the preparation of scientific reports and journal articles and occasionally present papers and posters.
- Act as a source of information and advice to other members of the group on scientific protocols and experimental techniques.
- Attend and represent the research group at internal and external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone.
- Work as part of a team and carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in the group as well as in partner institutions and research groups.
- Contribute to manuscripts, provide written and oral reports and other means of disseminating results, such as presenting data and ideas at regular laboratory group meetings.
- Participate in the smooth running of the laboratory and share in management responsibilities in the group selection criteria.
- 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.
- Undertake mandatory training as required by the University, Division and Department. The specific list of training courses may change from time-to-time, in response to both legal and internal University requirements.



Selection criteria

Essential

- Hold a PhD/DPhil (or close to completion) in Medical Sciences, Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology, Immunology or a related field;
- Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to work within established research programmes;
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities;
- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and research income generation;
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings;
- Experience in growing and manipulating primary T cells and T cell lines;
- Experience in protein design, recombinant protein expression and purification;
- Experience with biophysical and cell-based assays to validate structural or signalling information;
- Highly organised and responsive, with strong attention to detail and ability to work as part of a team
- An excellent publication record in leading refereed international journals;
- A flexible attitude, working with little supervision, and managing multiple tasks in a milestone-oriented project.

Desirable

- Experience in protein engineering by directed evolution using yeast or phage display;
- Experience in FACS and cell sorting;
- Experience purifying endotoxin-free recombinant proteins together with molecular cloning
- Experience in using flow cytometry, immunoprecipitation or Western immunoblot for detection of proteins or post-translational modifications;

Pre-employment screening

Standard checks

If you are offered the post, the offer will be subject to standard pre-employment checks. You will be asked to provide: proof of your right-to-work in the UK; proof of your identity; and (if we haven't done so already) we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities for which you may need us to make appropriate adjustments.

Please read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures at: <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks>



Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties

This job includes hazards or safety-critical activities. If you are offered the post, you will be asked to complete a health questionnaire which will be assessed by our Occupational Health Service, and the offer of employment will be subject a successful outcome of this assessment.

The hazards or safety-critical duties involved are as follows:

- Lone Working
- Work in hot or cold environments
- Regular manual handling
- Working with blood, human products and human tissues
- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

How to apply

Applications are made through our e-recruitment system and you will find all the information you need about how to apply on our Jobs website <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/how-to-apply>.

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.

As part of your application you will be asked to provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now. You will be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of 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. Please note using a long file name may prevent you from uploading your documents.

- http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/research/

All applications must be received by **midday** UK time 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 department(s).

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).

If you need help

Application FAQs, including technical troubleshooting advice is available at: <https://staff.web.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support-faqs>. Non-technical questions about this job should be addressed to the recruiting department directly recruitment@ndm.ox.ac.uk

To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our online recruitment portal to confirm receipt of your application. **Please check your spam/junk mail** if you do not receive this email. Important information for candidates

Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy>. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy>.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for very senior research posts at **grade RSIV/D35 and clinical equivalents E62 and E82**, which with effect from 1 October 2023 will be 30 September before the 70th birthday. The justification for this is explained at: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

For **existing** employees on these grades, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at other grades 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.

