

Job title	Postdoctoral Researcher in Immuno-Oncology
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Nuffield Department of Medicine
Location	Oxford Centre for Immuno-Oncology, Old Road Campus Research Building, Roosevelt Drive, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7DQ
Grade and salary	Research Grade 7: £ 38,674 - £46,913 with a discretionary range to £52,539 p.a. This is inclusive of a pensionable Oxford University Weighting of £1,500 per year.
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term contract for 2 years Funding is provided by the Michael Stanley Funds
Reporting to	Ignacio Melero, Kidani professor in Immuno-Oncology
Vacancy reference	179094

Additional information	This role meets the eligibility requirements for a Skilled Worker Certificate of Sponsorship under UK Visas and Immigration legislation.
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 - www.immonc.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 pensionable Oxford University Weighting allowance of £1,500 per annum (pro rata) 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

The role

The Research group of Ignacio Melero MD PhD at Oxford Centre for Immuno-Oncology in the Nuffield Department of Medicine, is seeking a highly motivated candidate for a Postdoctoral position. Led by Professor Melero, the translational immunotherapy lab focuses on studying, developing and mechanistically understanding immunotherapeutic strategies for cancer. The work is mainly translational, involving preclinical models and research on human samples related to clinical trials. This includes activities in close collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry.

Under the guidance of a supervisor you will be responsible for designing, executing, and analysing preclinical experiments using advanced immunotherapy products. Emphasis will be placed on the phenomena of crosspriming and neutralization of pro-tumor immunosuppressive inflammation.

Specific emphasis on hepatocarcinoma (see: Ochoa et al. Cell Reports Medicine 2023, Sangro et al. Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2021, Morales-Kastresana et al. CCR 2013).

The role will also involve coordinating research conducted with samples collected from clinical trials and analysing and interpreting the resulting data.

Responsibilities

You will:

- Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines
- Adapt existing and develop new scientific techniques and experimental protocols
- Test hypotheses and analyse scientific data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining working hypotheses as appropriate
- Be responsible for the development of a research project.
- Keep on top of relevant and broader scientific literature.
- Generate and keep an updated record of all the experimental results.
- Discuss results with all members of the laboratory.
- Represent the lab by presenting your research findings at national and international symposia.
- Collaborate in the preparation of scientific reports and journal articles and occasionally present papers and posters
- Provide supervision and training support more junior lab members.
- Communicate successfully with all members of the group and with collaborators.
- Assist with grant applications.
- Participate in activities that encourage effective internal and external collaboration, such as internal and external seminars / conferences, fundraising, PR, etc.
- Manipulating, making decisions, and analyzing experiments in mouse models
- Handling cellular immunology techniques
- Preparing, processing, and analyzing preclinical experiments involving immunotherapeutic treatments in oncology
- Conducting RNA-seq assays, nanostring analysis, TCR clonality studies, and in vivo killing assays
- Monitoring samples from clinical trials in oncology using flow cytometry assays, ELISAs, ELISPOT, RT-PCR, and chromium release assays
- 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.

Job descriptions can never be comprehensive and you may be required to undertake other similar tasks and responsibilities.

Selection criteria

Essential

- Hold a relevant PhD/Dphil in Immunology (or close to completion)
- Relevant experience in Immunology
- Experience of working with primary human lymphocytes
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities
- Evidence of contribution to published immunology research
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings
- Knowledge of bioinformatics

Desirable

- One or more first author scientific articles
- Experience in protein purification and flow cytometry
- Bioinformatics skills
- Experience of independently managing a discrete area of a research project
- Experience of actively collaborating in the development of research articles for publication

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 to a successful outcome of this assessment.

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

- Lone Working
- Work in hot or cold environments
- Working with blood, human products and human tissues



- Work with allergens, Eg laboratory animals, pollen, dust, fish or insects etc.
- Work with any substance which has any of the following pictograms on their MSDS:



- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

Additional security pre-employment checks

This job includes duties that will require additional security pre-employment checks:

- University security screening (eg identity checks)
- A satisfactory basic Disclosure and Barring Service check

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.

If you currently work for the University please note that:

- As part of the referencing process, we will contact your current department to confirm basic employment details including reason for leaving.
- Although employees may hold multiple part-time posts, they may not hold more than the equivalent of a full time post. If you are offered this post, and accepting it would take you over the equivalent of full-time hours, you will be expected to resign from, or reduce hours in, your other posts(s) before starting work in the new post.

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.

