

Research Associate in Cancer Research
Salary Range £24,570 - £35,800 per annum

Imperial College is ranked in the top five universities of the world, according to the 2007 Times Higher Education Supplement league tables.

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral position offered in the group of **Professor Vasso Episkopou**, based in the MRC Clinical Sciences Building, at the Hammersmith Hospital campus of Imperial College London, located in East Acton. www.csc.mrc.ac.uk.

Project: Deregulation of Transforming Growth Factor (TGF) beta signalling in the adult has been shown to be critical in both tumour suppression and tumour progression/metastasis. The group has discovered Arkadia/RNF111, a RING E3 ubiquitin ligase, a TGFbeta signalling de-repressor essential for normal embryonic development.

The postdoctoral project aims to elucidate the molecular mechanism of signalling de-repression in adult tissues/cells and its role in cancer. The project will involve a multidisciplinary approach that combines, biochemistry, proteomics, molecular biology, genetic manipulations and Embryonic Stem (ES) cells (knock-outs/transgenics/chimaeras), and molecular screening of tumours.

Requirements: We are seeking an outstanding scientist who has recently completed doctoral studies with a background in disciplines related to **cancer biology/signalling/biochemistry**. Experience in techniques such as protein biochemistry, DNA and RNA analysis, luciferase assays, and tissue culture are required: experience with immuno-fluorescence, in situ hybridization and in-vivo murine models is desirable.

The successful candidate will be part of a multidisciplinary research team and will have the opportunity to design and implement experimental strategies and to develop the project. He/she will have good interpersonal and presentation skills and will also be required to train/assist other members of the group.

Selected references: Mavrakis KJ, et al. (2007) Arkadia enhances Nodal/TGF-beta signaling by coupling phospho-Smad2/3 activity and turnover. *PLoS Biol* 5: e67; Episkopou, V., et al. (2001). Induction of the mammalian node requires Arkadia function in the extraembryonic lineages. *Nature* 410, 825-30. .

To make informal enquiries about the post, please contact Professor Vasso Episkopou (vasso.episkopou@csc.mrc.ac.uk).

This position is funded by a **CRUK grant for three years**, starting immediately, on an annually renewable basis. An application form and job description can be obtained from the web links:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/employment/research/hm20071521>

Alternatively, for an application pack please contact the Human Resources Assistant, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London, Hammersmith Campus, Commonwealth Building, Du Cane Road, London. W12 0NN, quoting reference number HM2007152

Closing date: 15 January 2008

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