



Research

Collaborative Cancer Research Centres
BREAST-PREDICT



Research Centre	Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer Ireland and National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology
Post title	Research Assistant (Evaluation of Novel Targeted Therapies in Breast Cancer)
Post duration	Up to 42 months fixed term contract

Background & Role:

The Irish Cancer Society-funded BREAST-PREDICT Collaborative Cancer Research Centre brings together the expertise and support of 6 academic institutions across Ireland (UCD, TCD, RCSI, DCU, NUIG and UCC) and a nationwide clinical trials group (ICORG) in the areas of population-based, translational and clinical cancer research. This country-wide centre, which is supported to the level of €7.5 million by the Irish Cancer Society, was set up in October 2013, and will run for a period of five years.

The main focus of the centre is to harness patient information and clinical data on a national level, in order to determine how to treat individual breast cancer patients according to the particular characteristics of their cancer. The programme, we will also include testing new treatment strategies, either by more accurately pinpointing those patients who will respond well to a particular drug, or by identifying new combinations of drugs. We will also develop new tools for improved prediction of patient outcome and response to treatment.

Arising from this Collaborative Cancer Research Centre, the following Research Assistant position is now available in Dublin City University within the National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB, www.nicb.ie), under the supervision of Dr Norma O'Donovan and Professor John Crown.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities:

The Research Assistant will have responsibility for the following:

- Maintenance and quality control of a panel of breast cancer cell lines
- Testing novel targeted therapies in specific sub-types of breast cancer *in vitro*. More specifically this will involve:
 - Assessing the effects of novel therapies on cell growth and cell death using proliferation, cell cycle and apoptosis assays
 - Testing combinations of targeted agents, with/without chemotherapy, *in vitro* to identify synergistic combinations
 - Testing the effects of targeted agents on cancer cell migration and invasion *in vitro*.
 - Assessing the effects of targeted agents on cell signalling pathways and investigating potential biomarkers of response to specific targeted agents.
- Development and characterisation of cell line models of resistance to specific targeted therapies
- Analysis of potential biomarkers in patient samples

Minimum Criteria

Applicants must have a primary degree in biomedical or related sciences. Experience in cell culture techniques and knowledge of cancer biology are desirable.

Salary: €21,830 - €23,181
Subject to qualifications and experience

Closing date: 30th January 2014

Informal enquiries to:

Dr Norma O'Donovan, NICB, DCU
Tel: +353-1-7007497, E-mail: norma.odonovan@dcu.ie

Application Procedure:

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (Open Competitions) website at <http://www4.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0)1 700 5149; Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9.

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities