



## Post-Doctoral Researcher

School of Medicine, College of Medicine Nursing and Health Sciences

Ref. No. University of Galway 299-22

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full time two year position as a post-doctoral researcher with the Discipline of Pharmacology & Therapeutics at the University of Galway.

This position is funded by Science Foundation Ireland, Frontiers for the Future Award to contract end date of November 2024

### Job Description:

The successful candidate will join the Ryan Research group in the Lambe Institute for Translational Medicine to lead a project on understanding immunosuppression in colorectal cancer. The Ryan laboratory investigates potential clinical utility of targeting stromal cells in tumours using novel approaches (e.g. immune checkpoint inhibitors) for the treatment of metastatic colon cancer: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/remedi/research-groups/ryangroup/>

The successful candidate will work in an interdisciplinary environment involving immunologists, cancer researchers, gastroenterologists, colorectal surgeons and pathologists at University of Galway and Galway University Hospitals. This project will aim to uncover novel sialylation-dependent immune checkpoint targets to overcome stromal cell immunosuppression in the TME and restore anti-tumour immunity in the context of colorectal cancer. The post-doctoral researcher will establish pre-clinical models of colorectal cancer to investigate the feasibility and efficacy of targeting sialylation in CRC stromal cells. Funding is available for collaborative travel opportunities. The project will be developed with national and international academic and industry collaborators.

### Duties:

- To perform a range of experimental assays to assess the role of sialylation in stromal cell mediated immune suppression
- To establish and characterise primary stromal cell cultures from clinical samples
- To develop pre-clinical models to assess efficacy of novel sialylation targeting approaches
- To develop 3D cell-based immunology models for assessing primary stromal cell immunosuppression.
- To evaluate research findings and perform data analysis in an accurate and precise manner
- To train and mentor postgraduate and undergraduate research students
- To publish research findings
- To attend conferences and disseminate research findings nationally and internationally

### Qualifications/Skills required:

PhD in Immunology, or Cancer Biology/Cancer Immunology, or a related Discipline. Broad base and cross disciplinary knowledge of tumour immunology



**Essential Requirements:**

- PhD in Immunology, or Cancer Biology/Cancer Immunology, or a related Discipline.
- Broad base and cross disciplinary knowledge of tumour immunology
- Published track record of expertise in molecular and cellular techniques (PCR, Western Blotting, ELISA, IHC)
- Expertise in advanced primary cell culture experience (2D and 3D)
- Expertise in multi-parameter flow cytometry
- Proven ability to work to deadlines and produce reports
- Experience and interest in training and mentorship of undergraduate/postgraduate research students
- Enthusiastic, driven and possess strong communication and organizational skills with the ability to produce results and prioritize tasks
- Strong publication record

**Desirable Requirements:**

- An interest in imaging techniques
- Experience in multiple immunology related cell based research techniques
- Experience with isolation and characterization of primary tumour samples
- Track record of successful funding applications appropriate to career stage
- A background knowledge of colorectal cancer

**Salary:** €39,523 to €43,127 per annum pro rata (public sector pay policy rules pertaining to new entrants will apply).

**Start date:** Position is available from Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 for two years with the possibility of a 12 month extension.

**Continuing Professional Development/Training:**

Further information on research and working at University of Galway is available on [Research at University of Galway](#) Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/rdc/> for further information.

For information on moving to Ireland please see [www.euraxess.ie](http://www.euraxess.ie)

Further information about our research group is available at <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/remedi/research-groups/ryangroup>  
Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Dr Aideen Ryan [aideen.ryan@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:aideen.ryan@universityofgalway.ie)

**NB:** Garda vetting is a requirement for this post



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UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

**To Apply:**

Applications to include a covering letter, CV, and the contact details of three referees should be sent, via e-mail (in word or PDF only) to [aideen.ryan@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:aideen.ryan@universityofgalway.ie)

Please put reference number **University of Galway 299-22** in subject line of e-mail application.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 pm Dec 10th**

We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.

University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment

