POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Postdoctoral Researcher

PURPOSE: Study of the roles of ASCIZ and DYNLL1 in the development and therapy of B cell lymphoma

LOCATION: St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne

CLASSIFICATION: Research Officer Year 1, 2, 3

ANNUAL SALARY RANGE: $74,689 - $80,174 depending on experience

TENURE: Initial one year, renewable dependent on funding

RESPONSIBLE TO: Jörg Heierhorst

SUPERANNUATION: 9.5%

SALARY PACKAGING: Up to $15,900 FBT exempt

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ST. VINCENT'S INSTITUTE

St Vincent’s Institute (SVI) is an independent basic biomedical research institute that is affiliated with the University of Melbourne and one of its major teaching hospitals, St Vincent’s Hospital. Through these links, its research programs provide a valuable service to clinical medicine, graduate education and community welfare.

The Institute through its reputation and record has attracted a dedicated and committed team of approximately 200 staff and students, including some of the best scientists in their chosen fields. SVI research is focused on exploring both disease cause and prevention, with a commitment to discovering practical and far-reaching solutions to diseases that impact on the everyday life of people around the world.

THE MOLECULAR GENETICS LABORATORY

The Molecular Genetics Unit (Head: Jörg Heierhorst) is interested in pathways regulating cell proliferation and cellular development. Key interests involve the functions of the Zinc-finger transcription factor ASCIZ and its main target, dynein light chain (DYNLL1). The lab has established several mouse models to study the role of these proteins during embryogenesis and in the development of B lymphocytes and B cell lymphoma.

Selected Publications:


**THE POSITION:**

The position holder is expected to advance research projects on the role of the ASCIZ protein in a confident and minimally supervised manner. This work is novelty driven and requires the ability and willingness to continuously acquire new experimental skills in a broad range of experimental approaches, and use of different experimental systems.

The main emphasis will be on characterisation of ASCIZ and DYNLL1 functions in mouse models, particularly B cell development and lymphomagenesis. Experimental approaches include FACS analyses, protein, RNA and DNA analyses at the molecular (blots etc) and cellular (immuno-fluorescence etc) level.

In addition to developing a high degree of technical versatility, the position holder will also be expected to develop a thorough intellectual understanding of the underlying science, and to take an interactive interest in the work of other lab members.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

**QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:**
- PhD, or nearing completion of PhD, in a relevant field.
- Experience in creative design and conduct of well-controlled experiments.
- Ability to learn quickly and adapt to an internationally highly competitive research field.
- Previous experience in mouse models of cancer or immune cell development, and multi-colour FACS is advantageous.

**PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES:**
- Enthusiastic and excited interest in molecular cell biology
- Passionate about research; lateral thinking; critical analysis; outspoken; prepared to get involved in problems; sense of humour.