TATA MEDICALCENTER

Application Closing Date: 17th May 2025

Position: Project Associate-II
No. of positions: 2
Appointing Organisation: Tata Translational Cancer Research Centre
Tata Medical Center, Kolkata

The Tata Medical Center and the Tata Translational Cancer Research Centre

The Tata Medical Center (TMC) is a multispecialty institution for tertiary cancer care based in New Town, Kolkata. At TMC, clinical and research activities are integrated to provide state-of-the-art care for patients with cancer. This integration is enabled by the Tata Translational Cancer Research Centre (TTCRC), the research arm of TMC. TTCRC is within a dedicated academic space and spread over 3 floors. At TTCRC, a multidisciplinary team of clinicians, scientists, academics and industry professionals collaborate to develop a systems medicine approach in cancer research. This approach is focussed on developing innovative, indigenous, cost-effective and equitable strategies to improve cancer diagnosis; develop treatments that match disease characteristics and are adapted to treatment response; and, identify prognostic and predictive disease biomarkers. These strategies are multi-dimensional and involve an iterative pathway that include clinical studies, high-throughput laboratory investigations, computational strategies to integrate, analyse and model data, hypothesis-based pre-clinical studies and evidence-based translation of findings to clinical practice. For additional information on work at TTCRC, visit https://tinyurl.com/TTCRC-systems-medicine and https://tinyurl.com/TTCRC-childhood-ALL.

PReDiCT research group and the project position

Personalised **Re**sidual **Di**sease **T**racking in **C**ancer (PReDiCT) group is focussed on tracking minimal residual disease (MRD) in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) patients and work in an integrated fashion with the clinical genomics team at TTCRC. We employ genomic methods to identify patient specific targets and then track them to measure the disease burden after each phase of treatment. This work has a great translational impact and helps in clinical decision making for the patients' treatment. The group is internationally accredited for the minimal residual disease detection in childhood ALL by RQ-PCR method. PReDiCT group works in close collaboration with University of Charite and DKMS LSL, Germany. The group is presently dedicated in two different activities: (a) Prospective MRD monitoring in ALL patients and (b) implementation of NGS based workflow for MRD monitoring. The group has a dedicated laboratory facility equipped with Illumina, Sanger and Nanopore sequencers and it facilitates

several national and international collaborative studies. The group is supported by a dedicated clinical research unit (CRU) and biorepository unit (TiMBR) at TTCRC.

The project entitled as "**HemaTrack-ALL a robust, reproducible, highly sensitive next generation assay for the detection and quantification of minimal residual disease in acute lymphoblastic leukemia**" is funded for three years by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India. Applications are invited for the position of **Project Associate-II** within PReDiCT group at TTCRC.

Roles and Responsibilities of the candidate

The candidate will join the PReDiCT group and must work closely with CRU and TiMBR Team. Primary responsibility will be to maintain good laboratory practices and perform responsibilities mentioned below:

(a) Identifying patients for HemaTrack-ALL project

(b) DNA extraction of patient's samples and QC for MRD workflows

(c) Tracking MRD for ALL patients

(d) Reporting the MRD results on time

(e) Proper documentation of regular experiments

(f) Taking part in the quality assessment (QA) twice a year organised by Euro MRD consortium

(g) Active participation in data presentations in group meetings and journal club.

Minimum required qualifications/experience

(a) Master's degree in Biological Sciences with expertise in Molecular Biology and Genomics

(b) Hands-on experience in basic laboratory protocols and techniques like DNA extraction, quality check, qPCR, sequencing (Sanger and/or next generation sequencing)

(c) Soft skills: MS Office, Laboratory and clinical data management

(d) Competency in managing large data, data analysis and familiarity with statistical analysis softwares and GraphPad Prism.

Additional experience

- Exposure in handling patients' samples
- library preparation on Illumina platform is preferred but not mandatory.

Necessary qualities

(a) Integrity, motivation, enthusiasm, responsibility and reliability

(b) Focus and commitment in carrying out tasks and duties

(c) Critical analytical and problem-solving skills, capable of independent work

(d) Ability to work effectively as part of a multidisciplinary team

Appointment and reporting

Appointment to the position will be for **two** years. The basic monthly salary is **INR 35,000, plus 24% HRA** (with CSIR-UGC NET or GATE qualification) or **INR 28,000, plus 24% HRA** (without NET /GATE qualification). The position will be funded by Department of Biotechnology (DBT). The successful candidate will be managed by and report to the group lead.

Enquiries

(a) For further details refer to TMC and TTCRC website, visit www.tmckolkata.com and https://www.ttcrc.org/

(b) Submission of applications by **e-mail (only) to both the emails** mentioned below:

Mr Suvasish Mukherjee

Head, Human Resources

Tata Medical Center, Kolkata 700 160

Email: suvashish.mukherjee@tmckolkata.com

Mr. Satadru Dey

Administrative Assistant

Tata Translational Cancer Research Centre

Tata Medical Center, Kolkata 700 160

Email: satadru.dey@ttcrc.tmckolkata.org

Knowledge/ Aptitude/Skills,	Requirements	Essential / desirable	Information from
1. Disposition / Attitude	a. Integrity, flexibility, motivated, committed b. Willing to learn new skills c. Works as part of a team d. Receptive to new ideas e. Capable of independent work & to an agreed plan f. Good time management g. Organized, able to prioritize responsibilities h. Works to high technical and quality standards	a. Essential b. Essential c. Essential d. Essential e. Essential f. Essential g. Essential h. Essential	Application form CV Profile Interview References
2. Education / Qualifications	a. Master's degree in Biological Science b. CSIR-UGC NET or GATE	a. Essential b. Desirable	Interview Application form CV
3. Experience	a. Good laboratory practice b. DNA and RNA technology c. Library preparation for sequencing d. Handling Illumina sequencer	a. Essential b. Essential c. Desirable d. Desirable	Application form CV Interview & References
4. Skills and ability	a. Critical thinking b. Problem solving skills c. Readiness to evaluate, develop and test new approaches and strategies d. Mentoring junior team members	a. Essential b. Essential c. Essential d. Desirable	Application form CV Interview References