



SAHLGRENKA AKADEMIN

Institutionen för kliniska vetenskaper

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Announcement - scholarship at undergraduate/advanced level

The Department of Surgery, the Institute of Clinical Sciences, hereby announces a vacant scholarship at undergraduate/advanced level in applied tumor immunology.

Preliminary training plan

Subject

Develop RNA based therapies to boost cancer immunotherapy.

Background

The global burden of melanoma, a solid cancer disease, is increasing world-wide. Recent developments in diagnosis and treatment of metastatic (spread) disease has mitigate and increase in deaths but still around 500 individuals die each year in Sweden. Immunotherapy is group of treatments that can cause durable treatment responses in a fraction of patients. But all do not respond and some that do have a short lasting response. The research group is developing new models of melanoma which are being used to devise new ways to treat the disease. Several concepts have reached the clinic at Sahlgrenska University Hospital, including epigenetic therapy and cell therapy. Currently the group is using RNA therapy as a new modality to strengthen cell therapy and other immunotherapies.

Purpose

This research plan aims to help a successful candidate to advance his/her career by improving the skillset used in development of therapy of melanoma.

Method

We will employ histological, biochemical and molecular biology techniques (in vitro transcription, cell culture, retroviral transductions, qRT-PCR and/or immunoblotting), to develop and test new RNA therapies.

Time plan

The first and second month, we will be working on developing and/or validating existing cell biology methodologies to explore the RNA therapy. In the third and fourth month, we will be working on molecular techniques to gain deeper insights into the mechanisms involved in the effect. During the final month, we will focus on analyzing the data and report writing.

Learning outcome

Understand how different RNA therapies impact immunotherapy outcomes. Learn how to design and conduct experiments to explore the role of cytokines and chemokines in immunotherapy. Learn how to write a scientific paper and make illustrations.

If you require any further information, please contact professor Jonas Nilsson, jonas.a.nilsson@surgery.gu.se, supervisor.

Financing

6 payments of 14.000 SEK. A total of 84.000 SEK for the whole period

Application

To apply please fill out the form “Scholarship application” and send it to Jonas Nilsson, jonas.a.nilsson@surgery.gu.se, supervisor.

To be eligible for a scholarship you must be a registered student at undergraduate or advanced level at the University of Gothenburg, other Swedish university or an international university.

Please attach a copy of your registration certificate with your application. The certificate must demonstrate that you are a registered student throughout the scholarship period.

Closing date is 2026-09-15