ESMO Fellowship Host Institute

Training Experience Required

IGR is seeking candidates for following departments, services, and unit:

1- Paediatric
2- Early Trials in Hematology
3- Early trials
4- Genetic Unit
5- Ambulatory Department
6- Thyroid surgery unit
7- Thoracic Oncology
8- Biostatistics department
9- Breast Cancer
10- Gynecology / Oncology Unit
11- Dermatology Service

Paediatric

General Description

The Paediatric and Adolescent Oncology Department is embedded in a comprehensive cancer centre and it works in a multidisciplinary as well as international environment to develop clinical and translational research for all types of cancers, from the most common to the rarest, and at any stage. An accent is also put on research concerning the quality of life and patients and long-term effects.
The Paediatric and Adolescent Oncology Department is developing its basic and translation research within three laboratories present on site: the CNRS UMR 8203 “Vectorology and Anticancer Therapeutics” (Luis Mir), INSERM U1009 (Laurence Zitvogel) and ? (Brigitte Bressac). Pediatric team memebers are supervising specific projects in the aera of new targets and preclinical drug development (brain tumors, neuroblastoma, osteosarcoma), immunotherapy (lymphoma and neuroblastoma) and genetic predisposition to pediatric tumors, respectively.

Expertise

- Paediatric solid tumours
- New drug development, translational and personalized medicine research, genetics, targeted therapies
- Adolescents and Young Adults Programme
- Long Term Follow-Up Programme
- Holistic approach : quality of care & life

Facilities
Our Department is localised in an adult comprehensive cancer centre and structured in four units: day care (8 beds), protected area for transplanted patients and intensive care (12 beds), Adolescents and Young Adults (10 beds) and one for the youngest children (10 beds). Research is developed on the basis of a translational approach by having MDs with PhD training involved in clinical as well in a specific paediatric research laboratories located on site.

For what type of project

Eccentric programme: The applicant will be involved in the design and the conduct of phase I and early phase II clinical trials, as well as a new program of biology-driven personalized medicine approach. The goal of this position is to recruit and train through clinical rotations and a unique mentorship to pursue translational research in new drug development.
The candidate will be working in an integrated program:

- Clinical fellowship and patient care in early drug development
- Translational and clinical research

The clinical trials are developed within the European network and consortium Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer (ITCC).
The fellow will design and develop together with the mentor the research projects. Research projects are tailored to meet the needs of individual fellows depending on their interests, previous training and experience.

Target identification and Preclinical Drug Evaluation programme: The applicant will be involved in the discovery of new specific pediatric therapeutic targets focusing on brain tumors and the preclinical evaluation of new anticancer drugs in relevant preclinical models with the aim of translating the discoveries directly in patient care for diagnosis, therapeutic stratification for personalized medicine and development and evaluation of early clinical trials with appropriate biomarkers and pharmacodynamic read-outs.

For what kind of profiles:

MD & PHD

Early Trials in Hematology

General Description

SITEP is a dedicated early drug development unit were more than 10 clinical trials are open to patients with hematological malignancies. This unit offers the opportunity to Young hematologist for an intense training in phase I trials.

Expertise

The SITEP is actually running more than 50 Phase I clinical trials. This unit has dedicated beds and facilities. More than 50 patients with hematological malignancies are treated each year.

Facilities

The SITEP (lead by Jean-Charles Soria)

For what type of project

To work on hematology and EDD (prognostic factors, toxicity)

For what kind of profiles:

MD & PHD

Early trials

General Description

SItep is a dedicated early drug development unit recruiting over 300 new patients/year across over 50 phase I trials

INSERM unit 981 is a translational research laboratory lead by Pr Andre, the thoracic group works on predictive biomarkers of cancer therapy efficacy and resistance

Expertise

- Drug development
- Precision Medicine
- Biomarkers

Facilities

12 inpatients beds and 12 outpatient chairs
A dedicated INSERM unit encompassing cellular and molecular biology facilities of premier level

For what type of project

Translational aspects of drug development

For what kind of profiles:

MD & PHD

Genetic Unit

General Description

IGR's Genetic Unit is devoted to the identification of persons at high genetic risk to develop cancers. This unit works in close contact with oncogeneticists, epidemiologists, statisticians and Bioinformatics IGR facility.

Expertise

We developed expertise in sequencing, targeted and now full exome, including experimental process and in silico analysis of variants. We are moving to in silico pathway analysis.

Facilities

We have a comprehensive molecular genetics facility including pre and post-PCR areas, Q-PCR and PCR instruments and sequencers (Sanger and soon, Miseq).

For what type of project

Identification of new cancer susceptibility genes by exome sequencing

For what kind of profiles:

MD & PHD

Ambulatory Department

General description

Consultations, emergency room, coordination for outpatient care

Expertise

Symptoms control, emergency care for cancer patients, coordination of care

For what type of project

Acute symptoms care in cancer patients: epidemiology and treatment;
Medico-economic research in coordination care field

For what kind of profiles

MD

Thyroid surgery unit

General description

Thyroid surgery unit in the department of Head and Neck Oncology : three full-time surgeons working in the thyroid surgery unit and with head and neck squamous cell carcinoma

Expertise

Surgery for thyroid cancer, particularly reinterventions, extensive neck dissection, invasive cancer and radio-guided surgery

Facilities
OR time 3-4 days per week, tumor board 1/week, thyroid diagnostic clinic 1/week

For what type of project

Sentinel node biopsy for thyroid cancer
Multicenter national clinical trial on prophylactic neck dissection
Radio-guided surgery with 18-FDG-PET

For what kind of profiles

MD

Thoracic Oncology

General description

The Institute of Thoracic Oncology, part of Gustave Roussy and Marie Lannelongue Hospital, is an integrated institute for diagnosis and treatment of thoracic malignancies including lung carcinoma, mediastinal and pleural tumors, chest-wall tumors and thoracic sarcoma.

Expertise

The Institute is the result of the combination of two internationally recognized hospitals specialized in cancer and thoracic surgery. The physicians working in this Institute cover all aspects of thoracic malignancies.

Facilities

The Institute offers all established procedures for the prevention, diagnosis (MRI, CT scan, PET scan,

Bronchoscopy, EBUS, EUS, pathology, molecular platform, etc…) and treatment (surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy) including translational research programs

For what type of project

Any program regarding the treatment strategy of thoracic malignancies (including surgery, radiotherapy medical oncology)

For what kind of profiles

MD & PHP

Biostatistics department

General description

Large biostatistics department with 42 persons are working in the unit, including 18 statisticians (10 seniors), 14 data manager and 3 economists, in Gustave-Roussy cancer institute, the largest in France and one of the largest in Europe: 2,500 professionals including 210 tenured physicians and 880 caregivers; 160,000 consultations and approximately 11,000 new patients each year, 330 beds and 86 days care beds; 12 research units with 300 researchers.

Expertise

On statistical methods related to clinical trials (phase I to III), economic evaluation, individual patient meta-analysis, epidemiology and translational research in particular genomics. The meta-analysis team is specialized in individual patient data meta-analysis, in particular in lung (Mauguen JCO 2012 and Lancet Oncol 2013; Friboulet NEJM 2013) and head & neck cancer (Pignon Rad oncol 2009, Blanchard JCO 2013).

Facilities

460 m² in a new building for biostatistics. The new building hosts a research unit in epidemiology and translational research as well as a bioinformatics unit. A medical computer science department is in charge in particular of the computer and data safety.

For what type of project

Summary or individual patient data meta-analyses of randomized trials in oncology, in particular in lung, hepatic & GI tract and head & neck cancers

For what kind of profiles

MD & PHP

Breast Cancer

General description

Breast Cancer Group, Gustave Roussy University Hospital, Villejuif, is dedicated to the multidisciplnary care of all breast lesions and especially breast cancer at all phases, together with high-level clinical and translational research in this field.

Expertise

We aim to allow a young oncologist to spend a year within Breast-dedicated team, in order to conduct a specialized clinical research project dedicated to personalized medicine in breast cancer (either localized, advanced or even in preventive context)

Among the specificities of breast group, Gustave Roussy, we underscore:

- Deep involvement of multidisciplinary care in diagnosis, decision making in all stages of the disease
- Major and increasing input of translational research and biology into diagnosis and decision making in all stages in daily practice
- Unique organisation and clinical results of the largest One Stop Unit for breast lesions in Europe
- Major role of clinical cancer research and access to new drugs in breast cancer care
- Organisation of cancer research, outpatient hospital, pharmacy, and all structures dedicated to clinical research
- Unique translational research lab dedicated to personalized medicine, especially for breast cancer
- Unique 25-years old tumour bank: rules, constitution

Team in charge: Dr Delaloge, Head Breast Cancer Group; Pr Fabrice André, Head INserm U981 biomarker lab; Dr Monica Arnedos, senior medical oncologist in charge of early drug development among Breast Group, Dr Mahasti Saghatchian, senior medical oncologist

For what type of project

These projects would be typically one-year clinical research projects in the field of personalized medicine: biomarker-based clinical trials, short term, local, feasibility trials (either localized, advanced or even in preventive context), in relation with larger clinical trials or evaluations (ex CTC, ctDNA, preoperative sequencing to lead patients to dedicated preoperative trials….)

For what kind of profiles

Graduate MD

Gynecology / Oncology Unit

General description

The GYNECOLOGY/ONCOLOGY unit at the Institut Gustave Roussy (IGR) is a multidisciplinary team composed of medical oncologists, surgeons, radiotherapists, radiologists as well as dedicated pathologists with specific expertise in gynaecologic malignancies. 500 new patients are seen each year with ovarian, endometrial or cervical cancers as well as uterine sarcomas and trophoblastic diseases.

Expertise

- ⇨ Rare gynaecologic tumors : The department is a national referral center for rare tumors such as germ cell or sex cord-stromal tumors of the ovary, clear cell or small cell ovarian cancer, persistent gestational trophoblastic neoplasia, uterine sarcomas etc... For most of these pathologies clinical trial data is scarce and their optimal management strategy remains poorly defined. A number of clinical trials have been conducted by the Gynecology Department of the IGR that have contributed to define the standard of care for these rare tumors (APE in high risk gestational trophoblastic neoplasia, ASCO oral 2012; Caelyx and trabectedin in uterine leiomyosarcoma, ASCO oral 2013; PAVEP and high dose chemotherapy in small cell cancer of the ovary, Pautier et al Ann Onc 2007).

- ⇨ Translational research:

a. Molecular profiling of sequential tumor samples:

All surgeries are performed on site with an established procedure for the collection of quality tumor and healthy tissue samples (frozen and FFPE) throughout the disease course of the patient: at diagnostic laparoscopy, surgery post-neoadjuvant chemotherapy or surgery for residual disease post-radiotherapy, and resection of isolated metastases. In addition, repeat biopsies at disease progression are routinely offered. This protocol offers the backbone for ongoing translational research projects investigating the mechanisms of resistance to treatment and novel targets in gynaecologic tumors.

b. Ex vivo ascitic cell primary culture:

We have optimized a protocol for primary culture of malignant ascitic cells from patients. In addition to potentially offering access to fresh tumor samples from patients throughout their disease course, this technique permits the realisation of mechanistic and target validation pre-clinical studies on live cells which may provide a more representative preclinical model than commercially available cell lines. In the case of chemoresistant patients, this technique offers the possibility to test in vitro the possibility of reversing chemoresistance with novel therapies.

Facilities

- ⇨ The institute offers access to high-throughput profiling technologies such as CGH, RNASeq, next generation sequencing (Illumina, Ion Torrent), as well as IHC, FISH and others for genomic and proteomic profiling of clinical samples. In addition, the department of gynecology also benefits from a dedicated space in the Institute's new translational laboratories to conduct the mechanistic preclinical studies that are crucial to validate candidate predictive markers or therapeutic targets identified in clinical samples.

For what type of project

The candidate could either focus on one aspect of a large project, or take ownership of a smaller independent project. All projects would be translational research rather than a clinical trial in order to offer the candidate the opportunity to take a project from conception to data analysis and publication during their fellowship. Studies may be conducted on retrospectively or prospectively collected samples and parallel mechanistic preclinical experiments may be proposed in parallel depending on the candidate interests and prior experience.

Topics for research include but are not limited to:

- The implication of genomic instability and DNA repair in chemotherapy responsiveness in ovarian and endometrial cancers
- The characterisation of chemotherapy resistant clones
- Defining the molecular profile of a rare gynaecologic pathology

- Novel actionable targets in gynaecologic tumors, with a specific focus on rare subtypes

For what kind of profiles

PHP and Graduate MD

Dermatology Service

General description

Dermatology service with a team of MDs, PhDs, Clinical research assistants

Expertise

Melanoma: targeted therapies and immunotherapies/ Carcinoma

Facilities

Clinics (outpatient)
Lab with PHD students, post docs, technicians
Research on resistance to targeted therapies and immunotherapy

For what type of project

Translational research project to study biomarkers of resistance/sensitivity to new agents in melanoma

For what kind of profiles

Graduate MD & PHD