

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	<b>Laboratory Head in Cellular Therapies</b>
<b>PROGRAM:</b>	<b>Cancer Research</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Herston, Brisbane, Australia</b>

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## ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

QIMR Berghofer is a statutory body under the *Queensland Institute of Medical Research Act (1945)*. The mission of QIMR Berghofer is to promote better health through impactful medical research. QIMR Berghofer has a vision to lead the way to significant innovation in health outcomes, nationally and globally. We are committed to supporting ground-breaking research discoveries, achieving sustainability and achieving impact, maintaining an internationally recognised Medical Research Institute within the State of Queensland that is the primary focus of Medical Research within the State. We cooperate with, and where possible assist the work of other medical research institutions within the State and globally.

The Institute focuses its research within four key Programs:

- Cancer Research
- Infection & Inflammation
- Brain & Mental Health
- Population Health

QIMR Berghofer promotes a *Working Better Together* operating model, recognising that whilst the purpose of the Institute is medical research, and the contribution of researchers is key, it cannot be done without the work of our highly-skilled professional staff. It recognises that we are all here to facilitate the same mission – *Better health through impactful medical research*. *Working Better Together* is underpinned by the shared understanding and application of our values:

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Accountability

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## REPORTING AND RELATIONSHIPS

This position reports to the Program Director, Cancer Research.

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## **ABOUT THE ROLE:**

An excellent opportunity is available for a Group Leader or Team Leader with expertise in cellular therapies to join the Cancer Research program at QIMR Berghofer. The position will be based at QIMR Berghofer, located at the Herston Health Precinct in Brisbane. QIMR Berghofer has an outstanding record of high-impact research in cellular therapies, cancer genetics, cancer omics, bioinformatics, infectious diseases and immunology. We are seeking a new Laboratory Head who will build on and complement our existing strengths in cellular therapies. The new laboratory will compliment a broader cell therapies program, including pre-clinical and clinical research for the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases.

Key advantages of conducting cell therapy research at QIMR Berghofer include:

- Our institute has a strong track record of developing both autologous and allogenic therapies for treatment of cancer and infectious disease.
- QIMR Berghofer is co-located with the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) on the Herston Health Precinct, therefore is strategically positioned for clinical research.
- Through Q-Gen Cell Therapeutics, QIMR Berghofer has an on-site state-of-the-art GMP manufacturing facility for cell-therapies. This facility is dedicated to translating clinical research to the bedside and supplies cell therapies for clinical trials based on campus (at the RBWH), interstate and overseas.
- QIMR Berghofer has strong clinical linkage with Queensland's largest cancer unit and the largest haemopoietic transplant unit in Australia (co-located onsite).
- Opportunities to collaborate with clinician researchers at QIMR Berghofer and RBWH (co-located on the Herston Health Precinct) conducting clinical trials in the use of cellular therapies for cancer treatment.

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## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### ***Leadership & Performance***

- Lead an internationally recognised research group in the area of cellular therapies for cancer treatment
- Develop/engineer novel cell-based therapies for the treatment of cancer.
- Collaborate with clinician researchers in the cellular therapies' unit located onsite at the Herston Medical Precinct.
- Contribute collaboratively as a member of the Program to promote achievement of the Institute's culture, vision and strategic objectives.
- Generate and maintain research funding through the Institute's approved applications for grants, fellowships, industry sponsored research or philanthropic activities
- Generate high-quality research outcomes that address the areas of knowledge generation, translation, commercial consequences, societal impacts and/or international reputation
- Maintain a distinguished publishing record especially as senior or first author.
- Maintain an international reputation as a leading scientist in your field as evidenced by invitations to speak at national and international meetings and conferences and representing QIMR Berghofer at same.
- Actively participate in and promote scientific seminars at the Institute
- Develop intra and inter-institutional collaboration opportunities which are relevant and beneficial to the research outcomes and to QIMR Berghofer

- Identify, develop and maximise commercial opportunities (if appropriate)
- Ensure research is conducted according to the “*Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research*” (2018)
- Ensure compliance with relevant funding agreements and QIMR Berghofer financial policies and procedures
- Ensure compliance with QIMR Berghofer policies including accurate recording of leave, correct use of the Institute’s credit card, adherence to travel policies etc.
- Ensure research is conducted according QIMR Berghofer policies including, but not limited to, ensuring all research and clinical trial protocols are approved for biosafety, human and animal ethics as relevant.
- Ensure QIMR Berghofer Equipment & Facilities are used appropriately and provide technical advice for potential scientific equipment acquisitions
- Accept responsibility for the safety of employees, students and contractors in your research group and comply with obligations under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and QIMR Berghofer safety policies
- Ensure your research group is managed according to QIMR Berghofer policies
- Assist the Director, and Program Director as required.

### **Human Resources**

- Lead a team of people by:
  - Recruiting employees/students
  - Managing the day to day performance and career development of employees and students
  - Complying with and modelling QIMR Berghofer’s Code of Conduct
- Mentor students, junior researchers and other colleagues to assist in the development and maintenance of the culture of scientific excellence at QIMR Berghofer and the focus on high quality research outcomes

### **QIMR Reputation**

- Ensure QIMR Berghofer Equipment & Facilities are used appropriately
- Ensure appropriate use of information (privacy, intellectual property, records management)
- Contribute to the leadership of QIMR Berghofer through chairing or being a member of internal committees or participation in external committee as required.
- Contribute to the strength of QIMR Berghofer’s international reputation for research excellence, including media and community engagement strategies.
- Assist with QIMR Berghofer fundraising efforts by representing the Institute at appropriate events or in building/maintaining approved donor relationships as required and from time to time.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

The applicant should have;

- A PhD or equivalent qualification/experience in cellular therapies and, typically, at least 4-10 years' research experience.
- A track record of developing/engineering novel cell-based therapies for the treatment of cancer.
- Experience in contributing to research translation and impact, e.g. through commercialisation of IP and patent applications.
- A track record in conducting innovative and impactful research, demonstrated leadership and experience in developing collaborations.
- A track record of securing research funding from diverse sources as lead investigator.
- An excellent publication record, as demonstrated by quantity, high quality, lead authorship and international recognition of peer-reviewed publications.
- A track record in research supervision and contribution to mentoring/research training.
- A strong national and international reputation, as demonstrated by collaborations, invitations to speak at national and international meetings, participation in external service, etc.
- A track record of responsible research conduct, with high standards of ethics and scientific rigour.

Desirable:

- A track record of translating cellular therapy to clinical trial in collaboration with clinicians or industry

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## **REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS:**

In addition to operational funding, high-performing candidates will receive additional support to assist with the management of their established, funded research program.

QIMR Berghofer also offers:

- Salary Packaging
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Stimulating work setting focused on cutting-edge medical research
- Supportive/collaborative team environment
- Parental leave provisions