

Cancer Research UK MedImmune Alliance Laboratory

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) is collaborating with MedImmune, the global biologics research and development arm of AstraZeneca, to empower the discovery of new ways to diagnose and treat cancer. The Cancer Research UK-MedImmune Alliance Laboratory (CMAL), based in Cambridge, combines academic insight and industrial drug development expertise to accelerate the discovery of novel diagnostic and therapeutic antibodies that will benefit cancer patients.

Within this unique collaboration, MedImmune brings its experience and expertise in discovering biologic medicines, and its proven human antibody platforms and technologies; CRUK and its extensive network of cancer researchers bring understanding of cancer biology and oncology expertise, together with an understanding of disease mechanisms and models.

CMAL is actively engaging with both academic investigators and the wider oncology research community: cancer researchers in the UK and Europe, who are focusing on potential drug targets, are encouraged to work in partnership with CMAL's multidisciplinary team to maximise the opportunity for the identification of potential biologic medicines and diagnostics for cancer therapy.

The CMAL collaboration has been operating since late 2015 and the combined team of two MedImmune and 12 CRUK expert scientists work together to generate antibodies to establish proof of concept for the Principle Investigators' original ideas. The initial projects are progressing well and the first publication describing a collaborative piece of work around one of the novel therapeutic targets should be published late 2017/early 2018. This will be followed by the first candidate antibody therapeutic, which could be ready for onward development as early as during 2019.

The CRUK-MEDI Alliance Laboratory invites researchers interested in accessing this unique laboratory, whether they have a novel insight into the disease biology, a well-validated target, or relevant expertise in immunology to visit: <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/funding-for-researchers/how-we-deliver-research/our-research-partnerships/cruk-medimmune-alliance-laboratory>. For more information, or to express an interest in working with the alliance, email: AllianceLab@cancer.org.uk.