

Briefing for CRTF Candidates - Autumn 2025 Entry

21 August 2025

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NHS DATA
Digital SAFE
HAVEN

DATA-CAN

EPiC



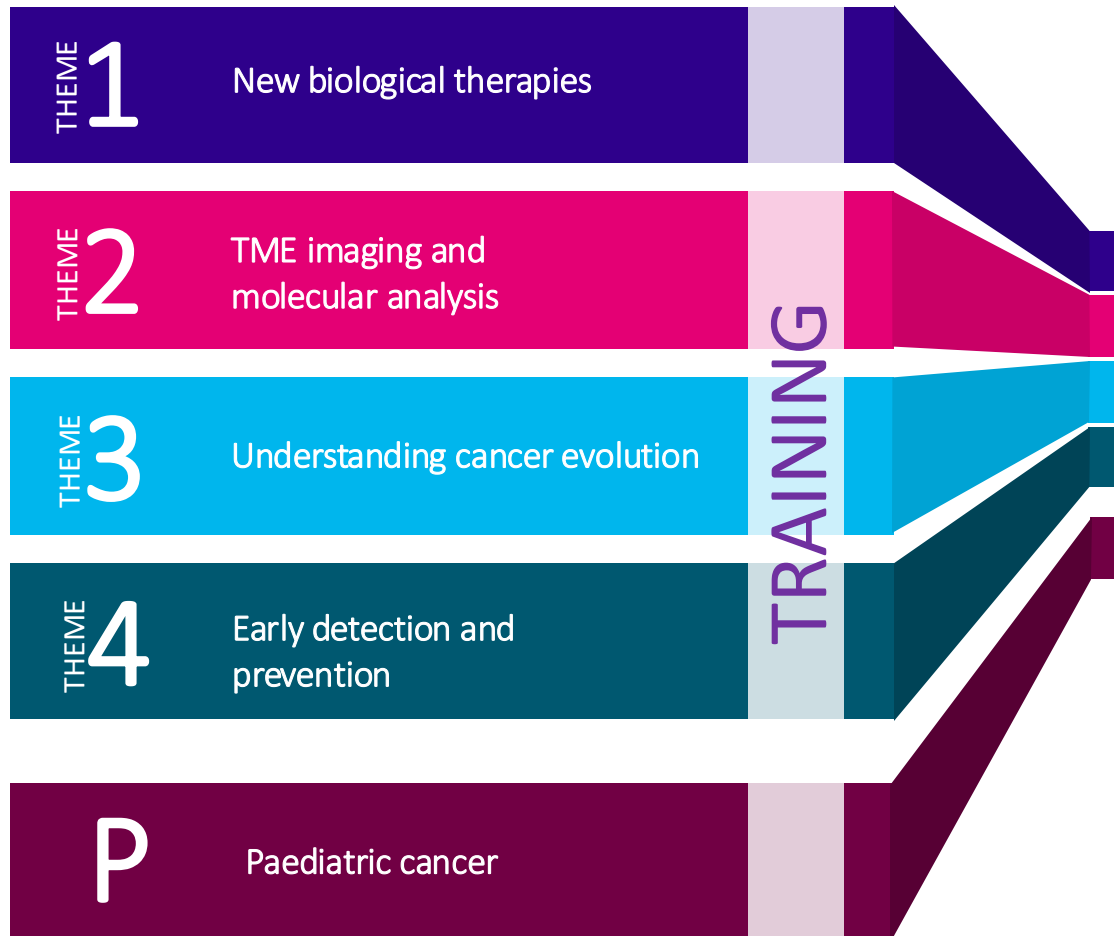
CONCORD
Global surveillance
of cancer survival



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Our Training Programme



Dedicated Postgraduate
Training Manager (PGTM)



Iris Lüke

Centralised recruitment process, competitive for students and supervisors

Cohort gaining deep knowledge of the cancer biotherapeutics

Cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary supervisory teams and projects

Customised training plan, research placements

CoL Centre workshops/meetings and outreach

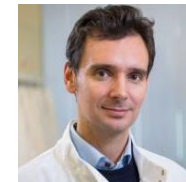
Training leads



Sarah Martin
Training Director



Jeremy Carlton
Discovery
Training Lead



Gert Attard
Clinical
Training Lead

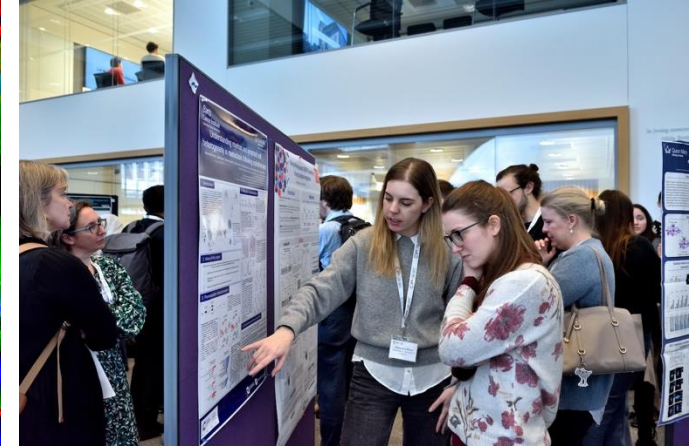
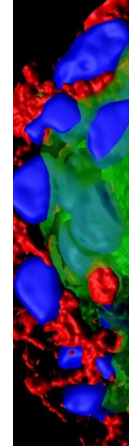


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Candidates focussed recruitment

- We offer you the opportunity to do a PhD project that reflects your interest
- Even without pre-existing links to research networks it will be easy for you to make connections to potential supervisors
- You will engage with your supervisor early on
- You will gain experience in proposal writing



Your PhD

- You will register for your PhD at your primary supervisor's university, or, if your primary supervisor is a Crick group leader, at your secondary supervisor's university
- Start of the programme is in Autumn 2026
- You have access to training and facilities across the CoL Centre
- The CoL Centre offers a bespoke training programme for your cohort
- You work with your supervisors and the PGTM to develop and identify the customisable elements of your training programme
- Your research project might give you the opportunity to spend time with your secondary supervisor's group and at other Centre sites as appropriate.
- There is also a strong emphasis on career support and mentoring in year 3



Eligibility & funding

Applicants for this competitive programme are expected to:

- Have a medical degree
- Be in a training position
- Have previous wet or dry lab research experience (desirable)
- Have continuous full GMC registration or equivalent

Funding includes:

- a 3-year full time fellowship providing salary at appropriate clinical academic scale salary
- UK (Home) tuition fees
- Consumables budget
- Training & travel budget

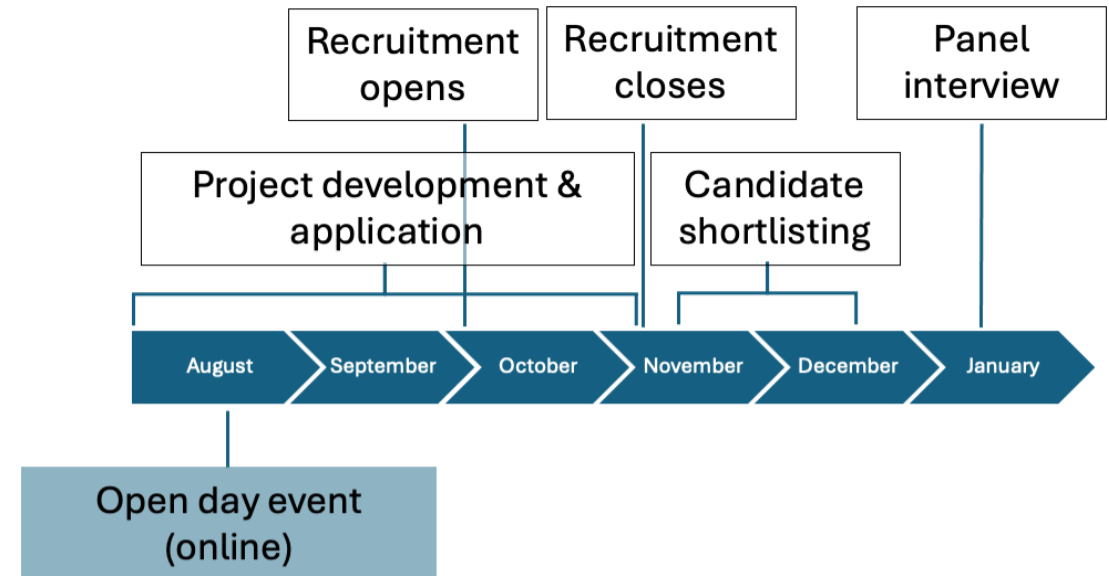


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CRTF recruitment

- Candidates are invited to co-develop a project that suits their interest, skills and future ambitions
- You can choose from list of approved potential PhD supervisors
- Your project proposal will be submitted as part of your application – applications can be submitted from early October, the **deadline 5 November 2025**



The recruitment process – step by step



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Project development & application

- An extensive list of possible supervisors, spanning all four CoL Centre research themes is available on our website
- You should approach potential supervisors now to discuss the possibility of pursuing a 3-year PhD in their lab
 - We recommend that you initially contact 3 to 4 PIs
- What supervisors are looking for: your interest in their research area and motivation to do a PhD with them, your fit with their research group, your academic potential
- Once you and a supervisor agree to work together, you should develop a project proposal as directed in the info package
- Candidates and primary supervisors should only commit to developing **one project proposal**
- You will submit the project proposal as part of your application – application deadline is **5 November 2025**



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The project proposal should...

- Address at least one of the centre's research themes:
 - 1) Identification, Development and Production of Novel Biological Therapies
 - 2) Exploiting TME Imaging and Molecular Analysis to Develop Effective Therapy Combinations
 - 3) Enhancing Impact of Therapy by Understanding Cancer Evolution
 - 4) Early Detection and Prevention

Projects with some focus on **childhood cancer** are welcomed

- Have a supervisory team comprising PIs, who are part of the CoL Centre Faculty, from different CoL Centre partners and disciplines
- Be feasible for trainees to complete and write up within 3 years
- Be multi-disciplinary
- Allow the students to spend time at other CoL Centre partner institutes (Barts/QMUL, Crick, KCL, UCL), hospitals or affiliated institutes, as appropriate.



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Candidate shortlisting & selection

- Candidates apply through the Crick Academic Recruitment system
- Applications and project proposals will be reviewed by our clinical training leads
- Shortlisting criteria are:
 - Academic achievement
 - Motivation to pursue a PhD with the CoL Centre
 - Quality of the research project proposal
 - Fit of the project proposal with the CoL Centre research focus
 - Multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary aspect of the project
- A shortlist of candidates – approved by the CoL Centre director/ executive board, will be interviewed in mid-January
- Up to 6 of the highest performing candidates will be offered a position on the CoL Centre training programme

Questions? Contact Iris Lüke (iris.lueke@crick.ac.uk)