

Postdoctoral Position in NK Cell Immunotherapy for Cancer

We are seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Researcher to join the **NK cell immunotherapy team** led by Dr. **Aura Muntasell** at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute.

Position Description

We offer a one-year contract, extendable to two years, to contribute to the development of an off-the-shelf, allogeneic TAR-NK cell product for cancer immunotherapy.

The researcher will participate in the development and standardization of the manufacturing process for SMAD4-edited human NK cells, including NK-cell expansion, CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genetic modification and cryopreservation, as well as the transfer and manufacturing of the clinical product in collaboration with the Banc de Sang i Teixits de Catalunya. The position will also involve developing preclinical studies supporting IMPD submission, including pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic, biodistribution and efficacy studies in colorectal cancer models. Additional responsibilities include developing and optimizing assays for assessing the identity, purity, safety and potency of the final NK-cell product.

This is an excellent opportunity to work in a highly collaborative and multidisciplinary environment at the interface of NK-cell biology, cell therapy manufacturing and clinical translation.

Requirements

- Ph.D. in Immunology, Cell Biology, Biotechnology, Biomedical Sciences or a related field.
- Experience with primary human NK cells isolation and culture.
- Experience with multiparametric flow cytometry and immunological assays.
- Knowledge of NK-cell biology, expansion and functional assays.
- Ability to independently design experiments, analyze data and troubleshoot protocols.
- Proficiency in English and ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team.

Additional Desirable Qualifications

Experience in one or more of the following will be considered an advantage:

- GMP-compliant cell therapy manufacturing and process development.
- Genetic modification of primary cells, particularly electroporation or CRISPR/Cas9.
- Xenograft, PDX or humanized mouse models, particularly colorectal cancer models.
- Familiarity with CMC development or IMPD preparation.
- Scientific reporting and/or project coordination.

Previous GMP or clinical cell therapy experience is not essential; a strong experimental background and willingness to work in a translational environment are highly valued.

Interested candidates should send an updated CV and optional references to amuntasell@researchmar.net by the end of October 2026.