

Pillar 3 – “Understanding and Overcoming Mechanisms of Drug Resistance in Tumours”

Sydney Vital is a Translational Cancer Research Centre based in the Northern Sydney area and funded by the Cancer Institute NSW (CINSW). Its members come from a number of institutions and hospitals, including the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, University of Technology, Kolling Institute, Royal North Shore Hospital, Northern Sydney LHD, the Mater Hospital and others. **Sydney Vital** is composed of *Flagships* (specific, targeted research programs) and *Pillars*. Pillars are cross-disciplinary research “hubs” designed to bring researchers with different skills together, who often may not meet or have any interaction with one another, to address questions of common interest. There are 3 Flagships and 5 Pillars. Additional details on this structure are available on the **Sydney Vital** website (www.sydneyvital.org.au).

Sydney Vital is seeking 2 individuals to act as leaders for Pillar 3 - “*Understanding and Overcoming Mechanisms of Drug Resistance in Tumours*”. The Pillar’s aims are deliberately broad to allow scope to explore and exploit strengths within the partner organisations. The Pillar provides base funding of \$15 k *p.a.* (which can be further leveraged) to support activities to bring Pillar members together to develop new programs of research, both basic science and clinical, and to expand networks and collaborations. Ideally, the Pillars would have outputs that impact on the T1, T2 and T3 domains of translational research as defined by the CINSW, or the Flagship Programs 1, 2, or 3 of **Sydney Vital**. The Pillar leaders would ideally be researchers who are currently developing their research portfolio and might be **classified as early to mid-career researchers**. A clinician and a basic/pre-clinical scientist is the preferred combination of **Sydney Vital**.

Activities within this Pillar may include:

- Facilitating and/or enhancing collaborations between clinical and pre-clinical researchers, i.e. building strong networks to enable multidisciplinary approaches to issues of drug resistance;
- Encouraging knowledge exchange and boosting capacity and commitment to collaborative translational research;
- Identifying potential pilot projects which encourage cross-fertilization of ideas in a multidisciplinary, multisite setting and across Tumour streams;
- Improving the communication of research findings & new treatment options to patients and the community;
- Increasing recruitment to clinical trials, including improved mechanisms of capturing clinical trial data back into the research community to enable further research;
- Supporting our current tumour banking program to develop improved mechanisms of collection of matched primary and relapsed tumours, as well as linkage of clinical data;
- Engagement with other health professionals, governments, and community organisations;
- Determining potential mechanisms of support that can be provided for translational cancer research projects.

If you are interested in taking on a leadership role to contribute to the direction of this Pillar we would welcome your expression of interest. Appointments would initially be for 2 years and may be extended. No salary funding is available from the Pillar; however, the funding that is available can be used for a wide range of activities such as educational meetings, conferences or other events, or inviting interstate or international speakers. The appointments will be made at the discretion of the Director, the **Sydney Vital** Management Team and the senior research lead of this Pillar.

Applications should include a CV detailing your current position, past positions over the last 10 years, indicators of your research activity (publications, grants etc.) and up to 2 pages on how you might contribute to directing this Pillar. This should include any ideas you may have for encouraging research interactions and developing research themes.

Applications should be submitted electronically to SydneyVital.admin@sydney.edu.au. For further information, please contact the **Sydney Vital** Centre Manager (Suzie Nguyen) on 9926 4726 or at the above email.

Closing date: Thursday, 30th April 2015.