

Expression of Interest:

VCCC Research Translation and Commercialisation Lead



Fractional 0.1 or 0.2 FTE appointment until 31 May 2024

Secondment Opportunity

With the ongoing objective of enhancing relationships across the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) alliance members, this position is offered as a secondment opportunity from within a member organisation to join the VCCC's expert distributed leadership team.

The primary purpose of the VCCC Research Translation and Commercialisation Lead is to provide expert advice to VCCC and to support relevant VCCC programs within the research portfolio. The role will support research translation and commercialisation, the acceleration of novel therapies to the clinic and clinical trial innovation within the VCCC alliance in order to ensure optimal program implementation leading to downstream improvement in patient outcomes.

About the Position

Working with the guidance and support of the VCCC Executive Director and in close collaboration with the VCCC Head of Research and Associate Head of Research, the VCCC Research Translation and Commercialisation Lead will provide leadership, strategic direction and expert advice to the VCCC, with the goal of driving and maximising research translation and commercialisation opportunities including clinical trial innovation across the VCCC Alliance and the cancer sector.

It is expected that the VCCC Research Translation and Commercialisation Lead will work closely with VCCC program Steering Groups and VCCC Head of Research to perform a needs analysis that will identify opportunities to maximise research translation and commercialisation, industry engagement and clinical trial innovation across relevant VCCC programs and across the alliance.

Key Responsibilities

1. Work in close collaboration with the VCCC Head of Research and Associate Head of Research to provide leadership, strategic direction and expert advice to the VCCC to enhance and maximise research translation, commercialisation and clinical trial innovation.
2. Work closely with program Steering Groups and VCCC Heads and Program Managers to perform a needs analysis in order to identify critical opportunities to maximise commercialisation, industry engagement and clinical trial innovation across the VCCC programs.
3. Work with the VCCC Head of Research to develop a comprehensive industry engagement strategy for VCCC
4. Work with the VCCC Head of Research and Associate Head of Research as well as the Accelerating Novel Therapies (Program 3) Steering Group to develop a research translation and commercialisation strategy
5. Work with the VCCC Head of Research as well as the Clinical Trial Innovation (Program 4) Program Manager and Steering Group to identify clinical trial innovation and collaboration opportunities within the program and support their successful implementation
6. Support and advise VCCC Research and Education Leads with regards to research translation, commercialisation and clinical trial innovation best practice

7. Work with VCCC Program staff and Alliance members to explore and secure leveraged funding opportunities (including but not limited to relevant funding opportunities from MRFF and the Breakthrough Victoria Fund)
8. Champion collaboration across the VCCC alliance
9. Act as an ambassador for the VCCC by:
 - increasing awareness of the role of the VCCC;
 - identifying key opportunities for VCCC engagement;
 - speaking publicly about VCCC programs in the media, scientific and clinical communities;
 - contributing content to the VCCC newsletter and annual report as appropriate;
 - other communication activities as and when appropriate.
10. From time to time, the VCCC may also call on the VCCC Research Translation and Commercialisation Lead's expertise to have input into other related activities. Such input will be discussed and agreed in association with the VCCC Head of Research and Executive Director.

Key Selection Criteria

Skills and Experience:

- A clinical and/or research position within one of the 10 VCCC alliance organisations
- Informed understanding of and commitment to the vision of VCCC
- A track record of successful translational cancer research
- Significant research profile relative to research translation and commercialising novel therapies
- Significant experience translating novel therapies from the lab in to early phase trials
- Significant experience liaising with and engaging industry in non-clinical and clinical development programs
- Significant experience designing and implementing early phase clinical trials as well as later stage Phase II and III trials
- Significant experience leading multi-site clinical trials as an Investigator
- Proven experience in managing a collaborative enterprise/enabling collective input and impact
- Experience in developing and/or delivering post-graduate education/training for health and/or research professionals
- Demonstrated success in building research capability in a complex environment
- Demonstrated involvement in and support for evidence-based processes that improve patient outcomes

Qualifications:

- A relevant clinical qualification
- PhD or equivalent level of research experience

Term & Time Commitment

Availability to commit approximately 4 - 8 hours spread across a week (0.1 or 0.2 full time equivalent (FTE)) until 31 May 2024.

Funding Arrangement

The funding agreement offered for this appointment will provide funds to be held by the Lead's current employer for the purposes of backfilling for their position, including any support, for the period.

About the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre

Vision

The vision for the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) is to save lives through the integration of consumer-engaged cancer research, education and patient care.

Founded in the holistic principles of the internationally recognised Comprehensive Cancer Centre model, the VCCC alliance brings together 10 of Victoria's leading research, academic, and clinical institutions to achieve what can only be done through state-wide collaboration. Together we will improve outcomes in cancer in metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria, and forge new approaches to cancer research, education, and patient care for all.

Operating Environment

The VCCC's multi-site, multi-disciplinary model brings together the complementary strengths of Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne Health (including The Royal Melbourne Hospital), the University of Melbourne, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, The Royal Women's Hospital, The Royal Children's Hospital, Western Health, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne (including St Vincent's Institute), Austin Health (including the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute and Austin Lifesciences) and Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

The VCCC has a 3.5-year agreement to June 2024 with the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and implement new and innovative cancer research and treatment programs under an agreed Strategic Program Plan.

Equity & Inclusion

The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre values diversity and is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to providing an inclusive work environment, free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation.

Further Information

For enquiries prior to applying for this role, please contact:

Dr Mark Buzza, VCCC Head of Research on mark.buzza@unimelb.edu.au or 0407553501.

VCCC Executive Director Professor Grant McArthur +61 3 8559 7063 or grant.mcarthur@petermac.org

To Express Your Interest

Please send your CV and covering letter addressing the key selection criteria to Dr Mark Buzza, VCCC Head of Research on mark.buzza@unimelb.edu.au, no later than **COB Friday 7th May 2021**.