Cancer Research UK
Science Committee
Supplementary Terms of Reference

This document sets out the key responsibilities that the Scientific Executive Board (SEB) has delegated to the Science Committee (the Committee). It should be read in conjunction with the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees.

1 Remit

1.1 To be responsible for the oversight, review, funding and management of the following research awards, including, where appropriate, outline applications and scientific milestone reviews of:

- Programme Awards – falling under the remits defined in Section 5.
- Programme Foundation Awards – falling under the remits defined in Section 5.
- Immunology Project Awards
- Multidisciplinary Project Awards
- Other basic science funding initiatives as requested by Cancer Research UK.

1.2 To be responsible for the quinquennial review process of the Senior Group Leaders of the research groups in the following Cancer Research UK Core Funded Institutes: Cancer Research UK Beatson Institute, Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute, Cancer Research UK/MRC Oxford Institute for Radiation Oncology and Biology and Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute. Quinquennial Reviews will generally be chaired by a member of the Science Committee and will be supported by a second member.

2 Additional Terms

2.1 The Science Committee will be supported in the assessment of the scientific quality of applications by Expert Review Panels (ERPs). The membership of ERPs for the assessment of Programmes and PFA will be dependent on the applications under consideration, but will be chaired by a member of the Science Committee and supported by up to two additional committee members where possible.

2.2 ERPs for the assessment of Immunology and Multidisciplinary Projects Awards will have a fixed membership; however, additional experts can be co-opted on to the Panel should the applications under consideration require it. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Immunology and Multidisciplinary ERPs will be members of the Science Committee. Where appropriate, the Immunology and Multidisciplinary ERPs can also consider Programme and PFA applications and an additional member of the Science Committee may be co-opted, if required, in these cases (please see the ‘Terms of Reference for Expert Review Panels supporting the Science Committee’ document for further information).

3 Membership

3.1 The Committee will comply with the membership requirements set out in the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees.

3.2 Members of the Science Committee may also be required to serve on the ERPs (please see the ‘Terms of Reference for Expert Review Panels supporting the Science Committee’ document for further information).

4 Meetings

4.1 The Science Committee meets twice a year.

4.2 If invited by the SEB, the Chair of the Committee will attend an SEB meeting on an annual basis to ensure that the Committee is aligned with the strategic priorities of Cancer Research UK.

5 Scope of Programme and Programme Foundation Awards

5.1 The Science Committee will consider Programme Award and PFA applications in any of the research areas listed below in paragraphs 5.2 to 5.6. Please note the Programme Awards and PFAs are not
restricted to one area of the remit and may span both basic and translational cancer research.

5.2. **Basic biological research**: Any area of basic biological research relating to cancer, including:

- Cancer genetics
- Genomic instability
- Cell transformation and oncogenesis
- Cancer cell metabolism
- Tumour biology, including tumour microenvironment
- Migration, invasion and metastasis
- Tumour immunology

Studies may include the use of model systems (e.g. yeast, worm, fly, zebrafish, mouse), cell lines (animal or human) or primary tumour material.

5.3. **Preclinical studies**: Research that will generate biological data to underpin therapeutic development, including:

- Identifying and functional characterisation of biological targets in cell lines, primary tumour material or model systems
- Immunotherapy and gene therapy
- Biological mechanisms of therapeutic interventions
- Mechanisms of resistance to therapies

5.4. **Imaging**: the following areas of imaging research:

- Whole-body preclinical and clinical imaging studies
- Cellular imaging to address questions of tumour biology in animal models or through whole-body imaging
- Development of imaging agents, contrast agents and other imaging technologies
- Imaging research associated with surgery

5.5. **Radiotherapy research**: Applications using the following approaches:

- Optimising radiotherapy – e.g. reducing toxicity or improving outcome in patients treated with radiotherapy.
- Validation of new targets in combination with radiotherapy

5.6. **Engineering and physical sciences (EPS) applied to cancer including the following areas**:

- Physics
- Engineering
- Mathematical and computational modelling
- Chemical and molecular sciences
- Materials science
- Molecular/tissue engineering
- Regenerative medicine

5.7. Cancer Research UK will only consider research proposals that are cancer-related and that contain a definite research aspect.

6. **Document information**

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<tr>
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