

Interim Director, Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Research

Role Description and Terms of Reference

The Director, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Research will provide oversight, leadership, and strategic guidance for hematology/oncology research at the BC Children's Hospital Research Institute ("BCCHR"), and will play an integral role in the success of research within BC Children's Hospital. A creative and visionary leader, the Director works with outstanding clinicians, scientists and members of the community to develop innovative approaches, promote collaborative interactions, and foster the training and development of current and future researchers. They will further interactions with partners (e.g. UBC, BC Children's Hospital Foundation, and BC Cancer and other research units within the Provincial Health Services Authority), and is expected to nurture strategic relationships with other provincial, national, and international organizations.

The role of the Director of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Research at BCCHR includes two overlapping areas of responsibility:

(1) Leading the Michael Cuccione Childhood Cancer Research Program (MC3RP).

- the MC3RP encompasses lab-based and clinical investigators and receives research support from specific donor funding derived from the Michael Cuccione Childhood Cancer Foundation and other funding directed to the support of the MC3RP from the BC Children's Hospital Foundation.

(2) Championing pediatric blood, cancer and transplant research more broadly across BCCHR.

- this research is supported by endowment or directed funding from the BC Children's Hospital Foundation, and involves the engaged development of hematology and cancer researchers not directly funded within the MC3RP.

Key Responsibilities

- Serves as the strategic leader of hematology and oncology research across BC Children's Hospital
- Champions pediatric blood, cancer and transplant research at BCCHR:
 - Represents the Research Program within the local community and national networks and committees, as opportunities arise and circumstances permit
 - Works closely with the Vice President, Research, BC Children's Hospital and the Head, Division of Hematology/Oncology/BMT, engages with the BC Children's Hospital Foundation and potential donors to champion research and develops fundraising priorities to support strategic and opportunistic expansion of blood and cancer research at BCCHR

- Incorporates strategic priorities for hematology and oncology research into the plans for the BCCHR and Research Themes by engagement with the Vice President, Research, BC Children’s Hospital and Theme leaders
- Responsible for specifically assigned hematology and oncology research funding outside the MC3RP, particularly donations or endowment funds managed by the BC Children’s Hospital Foundation
- Leads the MC3RP:
 - Develops strategic research plans
 - Prepares an annual budget (subject to final approval by the Vice President, Research, BC Children’s Hospital with input from the Head of the Hematology/Oncology/BMT Division), review of budget projections over a 5-year period to develop sustainable financial plans
 - Approves budget expenditures
 - Identifies and recommends areas for recruitment of MC3RP supported investigators (involving partnerships appropriate to each recruitment, such as the BCCHR Vice President Research a UBC department chair, the BCCHR director or a Theme leader, and/or similar)
 - Participates in the review processes for UBC annual activity reports or IGAP renewal proposals by investigators supported by MC3RP funding
 - Manages MC3RP funded staff not directly managed by another MC3RP Principal Investigator
- Supports the development and implementation of hematology and oncology-related research projects and activities, both when directly involved (e.g. as principal or co-investigator) or when the projects contribute to the overall success of such research at BCCHR (e.g. serving as advisor or facilitator in the development of collaborative interactions)
- Ensures research supported directly or indirectly by BCCHR cancer funds (i.e. research led by principal investigators with Investigator Grant Award Program (IGAP) support from blood or cancer-related sources or projects directly funded by such sources) meets the highest standards of integrity and ethics, follows the best research practices, and maintains and enhances the reputation of BCCHR
- Partners with the Division Head to oversee and participate in clinical research activities including activities of the Clinical Trials Unit.
- Represents cancer and hematology research within the BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute by serving on appropriate leadership structures
- Leads their own cutting-edge research program at BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute (the geographic requirement for the program location is waived for interim leaders).

Note: Due to the interim nature of the role, the responsibilities described can be subject to further discussions.

Support

The Director, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Research Program is directly supported in this role for the clerical and communication aspects of the described activities by dedicated hem/onc/research administrative staff. In addition, BCCHR administrative services support the role, such as assistance with financial planning, research development, facilities and informatics/IT.

Conditions of Employment

The interim appointment is for two years, until the permanent director is in place, and the position will report to the Vice-President, Research, BCCHRI.

Qualifications

Due to the nature of the responsibilities, the successful candidate for this position will be a faculty member at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor (Academic or Clinical) and possess an MD and/or PhD or equivalent, with an established record of accomplishment in research mentorship as well as evidence of progressive development of management experience. The incumbent will have demonstrated their ability to achieve research excellence in oncology, hematology or immunology and, ideally, a demonstrated understanding of genetics, genomics, immune biology, and immunotherapies. The incumbent must have excellent communication, administrative experience and organizational skills and have demonstrated collaborative leadership attributes and the ability to work effectively with students, faculty, and staff.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity and diversity within its community. We especially welcome applications from members of visible minority groups, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and others with the skills and knowledge to engage productively with diverse communities. All qualified persons are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.