

Epstein-Barr Virus Infection and Pathogenesis in Cancer

Group leads Professor Lawrence Young, John R. Arrand, **[Dr Christopher Dawson](/staff/profiles/cancer/dawson-christopher.aspx)**

Overview

Our group is interested in the role Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) plays in the pathogenesis of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) and a subset of gastric carcinomas. This work has ranged from the examination of EBV gene expression in these tumours to functional analysis of individual EBV latent genes in epithelial cells.

Our Research Group

The role of epithelial cell infection in EBV persistence and replication has also been examined with particular emphasis on viral modulation of cellular signalling pathways that impact on these processes. The contribution of EBV strain variation to tumour development has also been studied.

Key discoveries include:

- (i) the existence of different forms of EBV latency in virus-associated tumours;
- (ii) the first demonstration of the pattern of EBV gene expression in nasopharyngeal carcinoma;
- (iii) the signalling function of EBV-encoded latent proteins.

Staff

Professor Lawrence Young (group lead)

John R. Arrand (group lead)

[Dr Christopher Dawson](/staff/profiles/cancer/dawson-christopher.aspx) (group lead)

Rebecca J. Port