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Professor Charles Craddock FRCPath FRCP DPhil BMBCh

Professor of Haemato-oncology

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About

Professor Charles Craddock is Director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham and Professor of Haemato-oncology at the University of Birmingham.

His major areas of clinical interest are the management of myeloid malignancies including Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia and he leads an active clinical trials programme devoted to the design of novel drug and transplant therapies in these diseases.

He is Director of the Centre for Clinical Haematology at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham which hosts an internationally competitive early phase clinical trials portfolio.

Qualifications

- Fellow Royal College of Pathologists 2008
- Fellow of Royal College of Physicians 2008
- D Phil University of Oxford 1994
- BM BCh (University of Oxford) 1982
- BA Physiological Sciences (University of Oxford) 1979

Biography

Professor Charles Craddock is Director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham and Professor of Haemato-oncology at the University of Birmingham. He studied medicine at Oxford University and underwent postgraduate training in haematology at the Hammersmith Hospital, London, the Institute of Molecular Medicine at the University of Oxford and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre at the University of Washington, Seattle.

In 1999 he was appointed Director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham and in 2004 took up a newly created Chair of Haemato-oncology at the University of Birmingham. In the last decade the BMT unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital has grown rapidly to become the second largest adult transplant programme in the United Kingdom. Over the same period he has led the development of a translational haemato-oncology programme in Birmingham and is Director of the recently established Centre for Clinical Haematology which houses an integrated clinical leukaemia and transplant programme and an early phase trial unit serving one of the largest catchment areas in Europe.

Professor Craddock is Chair of UK Stem Cell Strategic Forum which was established in 2010 to advise the Department of Health on the strategic development of alternative donor stem cell transplantation in the UK. In 2010 he was appointed Medical Director of the Anthony Nolan- one of the largest unrelated donor registries in the world. In 2011 he led a successful bid to establish a national haemato-oncology early phase trials programme- the Therapy Acceleration Programme.

He is a recent President of the British Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation and is an active member of the NCRN Acute Myeloid Leukaemia Working Party. His main research interests include the development of novel drug and transplant therapies in myeloid leukaemias with particular reference to epigenetic and targeted therapies either prior to transplant or as adjunctive post-transplant therapy.

Teaching

- Undergraduate Haematology
- MSc in Oncology
- Course Organiser 'The complete FRCPath' - a problem orientated postgraduate course for Haematology Specialist Registrars in preparation for the FRCPath exam.

Postgraduate supervision

Professor Craddock supervises has a keen interest in the supervision of post-graduate degrees in clinical and translational aspects of stem cell transplantation and translational studies of epigenetic therapies and other novel therapies in myeloid malignancies

Research

RESEARCH THEMES

Professor Craddock's main research interests are in the design and delivery of new drug and transplant therapies in myeloid malignancies. He has an active interest in the development of novel reduced intensity conditioning regimens, immunotherapeutic strategies aimed at reducing infectious complications post-transplant and the

incorporation of targeted and epigenetic drugs as adjunctive therapies after allogeneic transplantation. He also has a major interest in improving outcomes after alternative donor transplants-particularly recipients of cord blood transplants.

NOVEL CONDITIONING REGIMENS

In the past 15 years he has made a significant contribution to the development of reduced intensity conditioning regimens in acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), myelodysplasia and chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML). This includes one of the first analyses of long term outcomes after an alemtuzumab based reduced intensity allograft in AML and collaborative work studying the clinical activity of such regimens in lymphoma and myeloma. This work has recently been extended to identify manipulable factors with the capacity to improve outcome after reduced intensity allografts in AML. The Early Phase Clinical Trials based in the Centre for Clinical Haematology team have pioneered the incorporation of adjunctive post-transplant therapies using targeted therapies such as imatinib and nilotinib and epigenetic therapies such as 5-azacitidine.

EPIGENETIC TEHRAPIES IN MYELOID MALIGNANCIES

Professor Craddock has a long-standing interest in the clinical activity of histone deacetylase inhibitors and DNA methyltransferase inhibitors in patients with high risk AML. The Early Phase Clinical Trials Team at the Centre for Clinical Haematology has led studies of sodium valproate and more recently combined sodium valproate and 5-azacitidine in AML. Working closely with the laboratories of Professors Stankovic and Moss these studies have documented induction of CD8+ T cell responses by epigenetic therapies in patients with AML. This work has led to the examination of the clinical activity of post-transplant 5-azacitdine in patients allografted for AML in a national Phase I/Ii trial.

Other activities

- Director of BMT Unit Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham
- Medical Director Anthony Nolan Trust
- Chairman UK Stem Cell Strategic Forum
- Past President British Society Blood and Marrow Transplantation
- Member NCRN AML Working Party
- Member NCRN Industry Liaison Group

Publications

Craddock C. Epigenetic manipulation of the immune response: a novel treatment strategy in hematologic malignancies. Cytotherapy. 2011 May;13(5):516-7

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