Dr Roger Grand

Reader In Experimental Cancer Studies

School of Cancer Sciences

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About

Roger Grand is a Reader in Experimental Cancer Studies. Roger has published over 150 research papers, mainly in the fields of adenovirus virology and muscle biochemistry. He has held numerous research grants including those from Cancer Research UK, MRC, Breast Cancer Campaign and AICR. His research has always been focused on the underlying causes of human disease with an emphasis on understanding the biochemistry of the proteins involved.

Qualifications

D.Sc. 1986, University of Birmingham
Ph.D. 1972 University of Leeds
B.Sc. 1969 Biochemistry, University of Sheffield

Biography

Roger Grand gained his B.Sc. in biochemistry at the University of Sheffield, in a department much influenced by Professor Hans Krebs. Roger moved to Leeds for his Ph.D. in the field of physical biochemistry. After a short post-doctoral fellowship at the University of London (Royal Holloway College) he joined Professor Sam Perry's 'muscle research group' in the Department of Biochemistry in Birmingham. A decade later Roger changed tack and moved to the Department of Cancer Studies to join the `adenovirus research group' with Professor Phil Gallimore. They directed the group together until Phil Gallimore retired, since which time Roger has lead a group, mainly focussed on adenovirus research, but latterly with a considerable interest in the DNA damage response.

Teaching

BMedSci – virology module
M.Sc. in Clinical Oncology
SGT and SSA to MBChB students
Primarily Supervising Ph.D. students

Postgraduate supervision

Roger Grand is currently supervising Ph.D. students working on various aspects of the DNA damage response and repair pathways, cell cycle regulation and on the relationship of Karposi's sarcoma associated herpes virus (KSHV) to the DNA damage response.

Research

Roger Grand's main research interest for the past thirty years has been in adenovirology with particular emphasis on the role of the early region1 (E1) proteins in viral infection and in adenovirus-mediated cell transformation. While this has led to considerable progress in our understanding of the modes of action of the E1 proteins – in particular the E1A and E1B55K oncoproteins it has also helped in our understanding of various cellular pathways which are affected during infection or cellular transformation. Thus Roger has also published research papers dealing with the properties of p53, the retinoblastoma protein Rb, Ras, C-terminal binding protein (CtBP), C-terminal binding protein interacting protein (CtIP) and hnRNPUL-1. He has also had a continuing interest in apoptosis. Over the last five years Roger developed an interest in the DNA damage response, in both adenovirus infected cells and in the absence of viral infection. This work has concentrated on the characterization of a relatively recently isolated protein hnRNPUL-1 (also known as E1B-AP5), which appears to function in RNA metabolism, transcriptional regulation and the DNA damage response.

Other activities

I am deputy director of the Genome Stability consortium.
I also organise internal seminars for the School