**Project Title:** Investigating novel targeted therapies in B-cell malignancies  
**Supervisors:** Meike Vogler and Martin Dyer

**Background & Aims of the project**

Several novel targeted therapies are currently being trialled in B-cell malignancies with great success. However, in particular refractory Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) still has a poor prognosis and represents an unmet clinical need.

In this project novel targeted therapies will be investigated in DLBCL. In particular the potential of the peptide DTP3, a novel inhibitor of the NF-kB pathways will be investigated (Cancer Cell 26, 495–508, 2014). NF-kB has been implicated in many inflammatory and malignant diseases and is particularly important in subtypes of DLBCL. Previous data obtained in our lab indicate that NF-kB signalling activated by the survival signals in the lymph node can mediate resistance to BCL2-inhibitors (Blood, 113, 4003, 2009). BCL2-inhibitors are amongst the most promising targeted agents currently developed for the treatment of B-cell malignancies. Therefore, one focus of our investigations will be whether DTP3 may overcome resistance mediated by survival signalling.

This study will employ different cell culture models using cell lines as well as primary tissues from patients. The student would be joining a world-leading lab in haematological research and benefit from the excellent connections between the lab and clinic.