

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME: Ahmed Salim Kadhim Al-Khafaji

SPECIALIZATION: Molecular Biology

POSITION: Lecturer & Research Associate

SCIENTIFIC DEGREE: PhD

WORK ADDRESS: Lecturer
Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad
Al-Jadriya, Baghdad, Iraq

ASSOCIATION: Honorary Research Associate
Dept. of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine
University of Liverpool, UK.

E-MAIL: khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq
khafaji@liverpool.ac.uk

**EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH QUALIFICATION**

1993-1998 B.Sc. in Biology/ Microbiology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

1998-2002 M.Sc. in Biotechnology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

2011-2015 Ph.D. in Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Institutes of Translational Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, University of Liverpool, UK.

2016-2017 Honorary Postdoctoral Fellow, Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, University of Liverpool, UK.

EMPLOYMENT

2016-present Lecturer at the dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

2004 - 2011 Lecturer assistant at the Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.
Principal investigator of PDT Research Project at the Iraqi Centre for Cancer & Medical Genetics Research (ICCMGR), Baghdad, Iraq.

2002 - 2004 Visiting lecturer assistant at the Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION AND SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

2016-present 1. Honorary Research Associate, The Liverpool Lung Project (LLP), Roy Castle Lung Cancer Research Programme, Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Institutes of Translational Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, University of Liverpool, UK.
2. Scientific Coordinator of the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Baghdad, Iraq and the University of Liverpool, UK.

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Al-Khafaji A.S.K.**, Pantazi P., Acha-Sagredo A., Schache A., Risk J.M., Shaw R.J., Liloglou T. (2020) Overexpression of *HURP* mRNA in head and neck carcinomas and association with in

- in vitro response to vinorelbine. *Oncology Letters*. 19(3): 2502-2507.
2. **Al-Khafaji A.S.K.**, Alnefaie G., Al-Shamery A.M. (2019). Valproic acid enhances the paclitaxel activity in respiratory tract cancer cells. *Journal of Contemporary Medical Sciences (JOCMS)*, 4, (4): 208–213.
 3. Albaayit S.F.A., **Al-Khafaji A.S.K.**, Alnaimy H. S. (2019) In vitro Macrophage Nitric Oxide and Interleukin-1 Beta Suppression by *Moringa peregrina* Seed. *Turkish Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 16 (3): 362-365.
 4. Al-Shammari A.M., Syhood Y., **Al-Khafaji A.S.** (2019) Use of low-power He-Ne laser therapy to accelerate regeneration processes of injured sciatic nerve in rabbit. *The Egyptian Journal of Neurology, Psychiatry and Neurosurgery*, 55 (1): 1-7.
 5. Albaayit S.F.A., **Al-Khafaji A.S.K.**, Radif H. M. (2018) Investigation of Plasmid-Associated Fluoroquinolone Resistance in Nosocomial *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Isolated from Infected Burn Wounds. *Journal of Biological Sciences*. 18 (8), 514-519.
 6. **Al-Khafaji A.S.K.**, Albaayit S.F.A., Ibraheem O.S., Abdul-ilah H.H. (2018) Molecular Investigation of Metallo- β -lactamase Encoding Gene in Nosocomial Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae in Iraqi Hospitals. *The Eurasia Proceedings of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*, (2), 239-243.
 7. **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, Davies M.P., Risk J.M., Marcus M.W., Shaw R.J., Field J.K., Liloglou T. (2017). *AURKA* mRNA expression is an independent predictor of poor prognosis in patients with non-small cell lung cancer. *Oncology Letters*. 13(6), 4463-4468.
 8. **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, Davies M.P., Risk J.M., Marcus M.W., Koffa M., Gosney J.R., Shaw R.J., Field J.K., Liloglou T. (2017). Aurora B expression modulates paclitaxel response in non-small cell lung cancer. *British Journal of Cancer*, 116(5), 592-599.
 9. **Al-Khafaji A.S.** (2015). Investigation of molecular modulation of taxane response in respiratory tract cancers by differential expression of mitotic spindle associated genes. *PhD thesis, Dept of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, University of Liverpool, UK*.
 10. Al-Shamery A.M., **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, Yaseen N.Y. (2013). Photoimmunotherapy by Cortactin monoclonal antibody conjugated with Hematoporphyrin derivative of a subcutaneous murine mammary adenocarcinoma using low power He-Ne laser. *Iraqi J Cancer Med. Genet.* 6(2), 115-119.
 11. **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, Al-Shamery A.M. (2012). Photodynamic therapy of subcutaneous murine mammary adenocarcinoma. *Iraqi J. Biotech.* 11 (1), 109-120.
 12. **Al-Khafaji A.S.** (2012) Photodynamic Effect on Photosensitized *Candida albicans* with Hematoporphyrin Derivative Using Low Power Diode Laser In Vitro. *Raf. J. Sci.*, 23 (1): 1-10.
 13. **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, Al-Shamery A.M., Subhi, S. (2010). Photodynamic action of low power He-Ne laser on photosensitized human Hep-2 and AMN3 cell lines with hematoporphyrin derivative in vitro. *Iraqi J Cancer Med. Genet.*, 3(1):54-60.
 14. Kandela S.A., Melconian A.K., **Al-Khafaji A.S.** (2004) Optimum Photosensitization of pathogenic bacteria using low power laser. *Journal of Al Nahrain University-Science* 8 (2), 54-62.
 15. **Al-Khafaji A.S.**, (2002), A study of the effect of photosensitization technique by low-power He-Ne laser on *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infecting burn wounds. *M.Sc. dissertation, College of Science, University of Baghdad*.

CONFERRING RESEARCH

1. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Ghaliah Alnefaie, Ahmed M Al-Shammari (2019). Epigenetic sensitization of respiratory tract cancer cells to paclitaxel using the DNA methyltransferase (DNMT) inhibitor Decidabine and histone deacetylase (HDAC) class I inhibitor Valproic acid (VPA).

The International Conference on Advanced Technologies of Cancer Diagnosis and Therapy (ATCDT), 06-07 April 2019. **Kufa, Iraq.**

2. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Dunya F Saloom (2019). Risk reduction of utilising biomaterials in medical applications through its environmental friendliness. *NBMC Raising BRM Awareness Conference*. 04-06 Mar 2019, **Baghdad, Iraq.**
3. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Fadhel M Lafta, Mustafa N Abd Ali, Amar K Muhamed, Mohammed Waheeb, Qays A Abdul Hadi, Manwar A Al-naqqash, Atheer A Fadhil, Adil R Alsaadawi, Ameer Dhahir, Haydar H Alabedi, Fawaz S Al-Alloosh, Faris Al-Lami Michael PA Davies, Triantafillos Liloglou, John K Field. The Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP). *Building collaborations in global cancer care: From fragile conflict ecosystems to emerging economies*. 19 Nov 2018, The Royal Society of Medicine, **London, UK.**
4. Albaayit S., **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**. In vitro Macrophage Nitric Oxide and Interleukin-1 Beta Suppression by *Moringa peregrina* Seed. *International Conference on Technology, Engineering and Science (IConTES)*, October 26-29, 2018, **Antalya, Turkey.**
5. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Shaymaa Abbas. Molecular Effect of Multidrug-Resistance Associated Genes on Spreading Nosocomial Gram-Negative Bacteria in Iraqi Clinical Centers. *International Conference on Research in Education and Science (ICRES)*. 28 April-1 May 2018, **Marmaris, Turkey.**
6. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Janet Risk, Richard Shaw, John Field, Triantafillos Liloglou. p53 involvement in valproate-mediated epigenetic sensitization to paclitaxel and mRNA expression of mitotic spindle associated genes in immortalized Human Bronchial Epithelial Cells. *Basic Epigenetic Mechanisms in Cancer conference*, 8-11 Nov 2015, **Berlin, Germany.**
7. Israa Al-Humairi, **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Beth Barnes, Paraskevi Dimou, Paschalia Pantazi, Janet Risk, John Field, Triantafillos Liloglou. Interaction of folate metabolism and DNA methylation machinery in respiratory tract cancer. B249. *NCRI Cancer Conference*, 1 - 4 Nov 2015, **Liverpool, UK.**
8. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Janet Risk, Richard Shaw, John Field, Triantafillos Liloglou. Epigenetic sensitization of respiratory tract cancer cells to paclitaxel. 627. *EAS2015 conference*, 20-23 Jun 2015, **Florence, Italy.**
9. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Syeda Ali, John Field, Triantafillos Liloglou. AURKA involvement in paclitaxel resistance in non-small cell lung cancer. B54. *NCRI Cancer Conference*, 2 - 5 Nov 2014, **Liverpool, UK.**
10. Paschalia Pantazi, **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Amelia Acha Sagredo, Andrew Schache, Triantafillos Liloglou. Upregulation of HURP gene expression in Head and Neck cancer and its clinical impact. *V international symposium "advances in oral cancer"*, 10-11 Jul 2014, **Bilbao, Spain.**
11. **Ahmed Al-Khafaji**, Paschalia Pantazi, Janet Risk, Richard Shaw, John Field, Triantafillos Liloglou. mRNA signature of the mitotic spindle gene members in predicting taxane response for non-small cell lung carcinomas. B14. *NCRI Cancer Conference*, 3-6 Nov 2013, **Liverpool, UK.**

CO-CHAIR

The **1st** Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP) video conference on **31st January 2017/ Liverpool, UK**

The **2nd** Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP) video conference on **22nd January 2019/Baghdad, Iraq**

The **3rd** Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP) video conference on **20th March 2019/Baghdad, Iraq**

The **4th** Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP) Meeting on **18th June 2019/ Istanbul, Turkey**

The **5th** Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP) Meeting on **8th July 2019/ Liverpool, UK**

P.S. Meetings January 2019 to July 2019 were supported by a University of Liverpool ODA Seed Fund Award

MEMBERSHIP

1. Member in the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), (2014-2015), USA.
2. Member in European Association for Cancer Research (EACR), (2013-2015), European Union.

WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA & TRAINING

1. Making sense of metrics. 24th July 2019, Sydney Jones Library, University of Liverpool, **Liverpool, UK.**
2. Stand out from the crowd! Communicating your research outside of academia'. 18th November 2019., Sydney Jones Library, University of Liverpool, **Liverpool, UK.**
3. The Third National Conference of Iraq FETP Epidemiology. 06-07 Mar 2019, **Baghdad, Iraq.**
4. UK global challenges and international research policy - the view from BEIS (27th April 2018) **The Chapel, Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool.**
5. Applications of RNAscope® and BaseScope™ ISH technology Visualize Gene Expression & Genetic Variations in Tissue (8th December 2016) At the **North West Cancer Research (NWCR) Centre, University of Liverpool.**
6. Running webinars and online classrooms with Adobe Connect (11/01/2017) at **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
7. The Turnitin Assignment Tool For e-submission (Part 1) And GradeMark for Feedback (Part 2) 18/01/2017 at **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
8. An editor's view of how to get published in a high impact journal 19/01/2017 at **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
9. Module Design: An introduction 15/02/2017 at **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
10. Innovative Trial Designs with Scientifically Rich Products in Cancer Research (Friday 17th February 2017), **Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool.**

11. **Quantitative determination of Melatonin by Radioimmunoassay (RIA). Theoretical:** (9/11/2008-8/12/2008), **Practical:** (9/12/2008-8/1/2009) & **Application:** (9/1/2009-8/2/2009), the **Division of Clinical Chemistry, Linköping University Hospital, Sweden.**

P.S. Also, I have arranged and participated in (34) local Symposiums & Workshops in Iraq.

COMMITTEES

I. Permanent Committees

1. Gene mapping of thalassemia for controlling and preventing the disease in Iraq, Ministry of Health & environment, Iraq (Ministerial order d.a.m./5/7/4600 no. 2019).
2. Quality Assurance and University Performance, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad. 2017-present.
3. Examination Committee, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad. The academic year 2017-2018.
4. Electronic quotation, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad. 2018-present.

II. Temporary Committees

I have been nominated to act as a member in more than 20 temporary committees, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad.

PERSONAL STATEMENT - RESEARCH PROFILE

Having worked on the investigation of the photodynamic effect on cancer cells *in vitro* and *in vivo* at ICCMGR during the period (2004 – 2007) followed by research work on Kleine-Levin Syndrome project under Prof. Anne-Marie Landtblom's supervision at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Linköping, Sweden (2008-2009), my recent interests have been in the Molecular Biology of cancer.

My PhD study (2011-2015) was a studentship granted from the University of Baghdad. Through my doctoral research, I have sought to identify ten genes involved in the mitotic spindle checkpoint process (AURKA, AURKB, AURKC, CKAP5, DLGAP5, KIF11, TPX2, TTK, TUBB and TUBB3). I explored their potential to modulate taxane resistance in the human airways carcinomas with a focus on its most prevalent form of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC).

This work has been performed as part of a collaboration between two of the main research groups in the Department of Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine; the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Research Programme and the Mersey Head & Neck Oncology Group, co-located in the University of Liverpool Cancer Research Centre.

In 2016, I re-joined the lung group as an Honorary Research Associate/ Postdoc under the line management of Dr Lakis Liloglou. During my honorary association, I have had a technical advisory role in the supervising teams of three PhD students during the period (2016- to present). On this aspect, I started to produce pilot results for enhancing grant application potentials. Based on the novelty of my research work, I was able to publish the findings in two

peer-reviewed journals with high impact factor; British Journal of Cancer and Oncology letters Journal.

Recently, I have established research collaboration between Iraq (University of Baghdad and Ministry of Health & environment) and UK (University of Liverpool) to develop an Iraqi Risk Model for Lung Cancer prediction and early detection screening programme in Iraq. I initiated this effort by establishing contact between key scientists from both the UK and Iraq. We (I and my collaborators) have already activated a recruitment process under the Iraq Healthy Lung Project (IHLP).

I and my collaborators were successfully granted a University of Liverpool ODA Research Seed Fund. It represents the first joint grant application between the Universities of Liverpool and Baghdad that have been spent, as planned, to strengthen and expand the current network so that further funding can be applied for.

Whilst Prof. John K Field (Clinical Professor of Molecular Oncology) was acting as Principle Investigator (PI), I was acting as Co-Investigator (Co-I) for the Iraqi contingent (including the University of Baghdad and Ministry of Health & Environment) took a very active role in the application alongside Dr Michael Davies at the University of Liverpool.

WEBSITES

1. Scopus

<https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57193488842>

2. Google Scholar

https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=1B_e6jUAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate

1. Research Gate

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ahmed_Al-Khafaji/publications

3. University of Liverpool

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/translational-medicine/staff/ahmed-al-khafaji/>

4. Publons

<https://publons.com/researcher/2979272/ahmed-salim-kadhim-al-khafaji/>

5. LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ahmed-s-k-al-khafaji-b86a5196/>

السيرة الذاتية المختصرة

أولاً : المعلومات العامة

احمد سالم كاظم الخفاجي			الاسم
2016	تاريخ الحصول عليها	مدرس	المرتبة العلمية
البايولوجي الجزيئي	التخصص الدقيق / المساق البحثي	علوم حياة/ احياء مجهرية	التخصص العام
تدريسي			الوظيفة
قسم علوم الحياة/ كلية العلوم / جامعة بغداد			عنوان محل العمل
العربية (اللغة الام), الانكليزية (بطلاقة), السويدية (مبتدى)			اللغات التي يجيدها
khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq			البريد الالكتروني

ثانياً : المؤهلات العلمية

تاريخ الحصول على الشهادة	الجهة المانحة للشهادة			الشهادة
	القسم	الكلية	الجامعة	
1998	قسم علوم الحياة	كلية العلوم	جامعة بغداد	البكالوريوس
2002	التقنيات الاحيائية	كلية العلوم	جامعة بغداد	الماجستير
2015	قسم طب السرطان الجزيئي والسريري Department of Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine	كلية علوم الحياة والصحة Faculty of Health & Life Sciences	جامعة ليفربول/ المملكة المتحدة University of Liverpool/ UK	الدكتوراه

ثالثاً : التدرج الوظيفي

ت	الوظيفة	الجهة	الفترة / من - الى
1	تدريسي	كلية العلوم/ جامعة بغداد	من 2004 و ما زال مستمر بالخدمة

رابعاً : الجامعات التي درّس فيها

ت	الجهة (المعهد / الكلية - القسم)	الجامعة	الفترة / من - الى
1	كلية العلوم/ قسم علوم الحياة	جامعة بغداد	1993 - 1998
2	كلية العلوم/ التقنيات الاحيائية	جامعة بغداد	1998 - 2002
3	كلية علوم الحياة والصحة Faculty of Health & Life Sciences/ قسم طب السرطان الجزيئي والسريري Department of Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine	جامعة ليفربول/ المملكة المتحدة University of Liverpool / UK	2011 - 2015

خامسا : احصائيات و بيانات

التفصيل				المعلومات و البيانات	ت
العليا		الاولية		عدد المواد الدراسية التي قام بتدريسها في الدراسات الأولية و العليا	1
2		7			
دبلوم	دكتوراه	ماجستير		عدد الرسائل و الأطاريح التي قيّمها لغويا	2
	1	26			
	1	1		عدد الطلبة الذين يشرف عليهم	3
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد المؤتمرات التي شارك فيها داخل و خارج العراق	4
8		6			
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد الورش و الندوات و الحلقات التي شارك فيها داخل و خارج العراق	5
6		34			
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد البحوث المنشورة في مجلات و مؤتمرات داخل و خارج العراق	6
8		7			
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد البحوث التي قومها علميا داخل و خارج العراق	7
9		4			
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد الجوائز و الشهادات التقديرية داخل و خارج العراق	8
		3			
خارج العراق		داخل العراق		عدد الدورات التطويرية و التدريبية التي شارك فيها	9
7		6			
2		ندوات و ورش عمل			
4		دورات تعليم مستمر			
1		نشاطات لاصفية			
3		نشاطات اعلامية			
3		أخرى			
خارج التعليم		داخل التعليم العالي		عدد اللجان التي شارك بعضويتها داخل و خارج وزارة التعليم العالي	10
1		24			
أخرى	عميد كلية	رئيس جامعة	وزير	عدد كتب الشكر و التقدير	11
	6	3			
أخرى	عميد كلية	رئيس جامعة	وزير	عدد العقوبات	12
لا يوجد	لا يوجد	لا يوجد	لا يوجد		

سادسا : عضوية الهيئات أو الجمعيات أو المؤسسات المحلية والدولية

ت	اسم الهيئة او الجمعية او المؤسسة	الجهة	فترة العضوية / من - الى
1	the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC)	USA	2015 - 2014
2	European Association for Cancer Research (EACR)	European Union	2015 - 2013

سابعا : النشاطات العلمية الأخرى

ت	عنوان النشاط	التفاصيل
1	ايفاد الى بريطانيا حول دراسة لسرطان الرئة	دورة تدريبية في مجال علم الحياة الجزيئي لسرطان الرئة (على نفقة جامعة ليفربول / المملكة المتحدة)
2	ايفاد الى تركيا حول مشروع العراق لرئة صحية	لقاء علمي وبحثي تم تنظيمه برعاية جامعة ليفربول البريطانية (على نفقة جامعة ليفربول / المملكة المتحدة)
3	منسق مذكرة تفاهم	بين جامعتي بغداد وليفربول البريطانية
4	المشاركة في الإشراف على طلبة الدكتوراه خارج العراق	مشاركة بالإشراف على 4 طلبة دكتوراه من جامعة ليفربول / المملكة المتحدة
5	تعاون تربوي Educational cooperation	تعاون تربوي مع جامعة ليفربول / المملكة المتحدة في تقييم طلبة الدراسات الاولية