

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

<b>NAME</b>	Ahmed Salim Kadhim Al-Khafaji
<b>QUALIFICATION</b>	PhD
<b>SPECIALIZATION</b>	Molecular Biology
<b>SCIENTIFIC TITLE</b>	Assistant Professor Doctor
<b>WORK ADDRESS</b>	Leading National Cancer Research Centre, University of Baghdad, Medical City, Bab Al Muadham, Baghdad, 10047, Iraq
<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	Honorary Research Associate Dept. of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine University of Liverpool, UK.
<b>E-MAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq">khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq</a> <a href="mailto:khafaji@liverpool.ac.uk">khafaji@liverpool.ac.uk</a>

**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** *PhD* in Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Institutes of Translational Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, University of Liverpool, UK.

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

**EMPLOYMENT**

**2021-present** Director of the Leading National Cancer Research Centre, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

**2019-2021** Assist Prof Dr at the dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

**2016-2019** Lecturer Dr at the dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

**2004-2016** Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

**2004-2011** Principal Investigator of PDT Research Project at the Iraqi Centre for Cancer & Medical Genetics Research (ICCMGR), Baghdad, Iraq.

**2002-2004** Visiting Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq.

**ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION AND SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**2021-present** *Scientific Coordinator* of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the University of Baghdad, Iraq and the University of Liverpool, UK.

**2021-present** [Editor; a member of Frontiers editorial board](#)

**2019-present** [Reviewer for all manuscripts submitted to Spandidos Publications Journals](#)

**2016-present** *Honorary Research Associate*, The Liverpool Lung Project (LLP), Roy Castle Lung Cancer Research Programme, Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, 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 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- $\beta$ -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.*

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

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

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

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

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

***P.S. Meetings January 2019 to July 2019 were supported by 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.

**CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA & TRAINING**

1. Stand out from the crowd! Communicating your research outside of academia'. 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019, **Sydney Jones Library, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK**
2. Making sense of metrics. 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019, **Sydney Jones Library, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK**
3. The Third National Conference of Iraq FETP Epidemiology. 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> March 2019, **Baghdad, Iraq**
4. Conference on Higher Education for the Development of Iraq. 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2018, **Embassy of the Republic of Iraq, London, UK**
5. UK global challenges and international research policy - the view from BEIS. 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018, **Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool**
6. Innovative Trial Designs with Scientifically Rich Products in Cancer Research. 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017, **Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool**
7. Module Design: An introduction. 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, **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<sup>th</sup> January 2017. **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool**
9. The Turnitin Assignment Tool For e-submission (Part 1) And GradeMark for Feedback (Part 2). 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017, **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
10. Running webinars and online classrooms with Adobe Connect. 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017, **Educational Development Division, Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Liverpool.**
11. Applications of RNAscope® and BaseScope™ ISH technology Visualize Gene Expression & Genetic Variations in Tissue, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016, **North West Cancer Research (NWCR) Centre, University of Liverpool.**
12. 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, **Division of Clinical Chemistry, Linköping University Hospital, Sweden.**

***P.S. Also, I have arranged and participated in more than 50 local Symposiums & Workshops in Iraq.***

## COMMITTEES

### I. Permanent Committees

1. establishing Higher Diploma in Forensic Biology Specialisation at the Dept of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad (Administrative order no. 27/3180 on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021).
2. Gene mapping of thalassemia for controlling and preventing the disease in Iraq, Ministry of Health & environment, Iraq (Ministerial order no.4600 on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019).
3. Quality Assurance and University Performance, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad. 2017-present.
4. Examination Committee, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad. The academic year 2017-2018.
5. 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 25 temporary committees, Dept. of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad.

## SUPERVISION AND ADVISORY ROLES

6. **Technical Advisory Team Member** for Three PhD. Students at the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Institutes of Translational Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, University of Liverpool, UK (2016-2021).
7. **Supervisor** of an M.Sc. Student at the Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq (2020-present).
8. **Co-advisor** of a PhD. Student at the Department of Molecular and Clinical Cancer Medicine, Institutes of Translational Medicine, Faculty of Health & Life Science, University of Liverpool, UK (2020-present).
9. **Scientific Advisor** of Ibn-Sina Centre for Research, Corporation for Research and Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry and Minerals, Iraq (2020-present)

## 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, the 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 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 was performed as part of 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). In 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 a number of peer-reviewed journals with high impact factor; the 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 the 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 with 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\\_e6jUAAA&view\\_op=list\\_works&sortby=pubdate](https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=1B_e6jUAAA&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate)

### **1. Research Gate**

[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ahmed\\_Al-Khafaji/publications](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/>

### **6. Science Open**

<https://www.scienceopen.com/user/3a6fe8b9-c836-4db8-89a8-d168ce59f0a7>

### **7. Frontiers editorial board**

<https://loop.frontiersin.org/people/1358515/editorial>

## السيرة الذاتية المختصرة

### أولاً : المعلومات العامة

الاسم	احمد سالم كاظم الخفاجي	
المرتبة العلمية	تاريخ الحصول عليها	2019
التخصص العام	التخصص الدقيق / المساق البحثي	البايولوجي الجزيئي
الوظيفة	مدير المركز الوطني الريادي لبحوث السرطان/ جامعة بغداد	
عنوان محل العمل	المركز الوطني الريادي لبحوث السرطان / جامعة بغداد/ مدينة الطب/ بغداد/ العراق	
اللغات التي يجيدها	العربية (اللغة الام), الانكليزية (بطلاقة), السويدية (مبتدئ)	
البريد الالكتروني	<a href="mailto:khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq">khafaji@sc.uobaghdad.edu.iq</a> <a href="mailto:khafaji@liverpool.ac.uk">khafaji@liverpool.ac.uk</a>	

### 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
2	مدير مركز بحثي	المركز الوطني الريادي لبحوث السرطان/ جامعة بغداد	من 2021 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

2015 - 2011	جامعة ليفربول/ المملكة المتحدة University of Liverpool / UK	كلية علوم الحياة والصحة Faculty of Health & Life Sciences/ قسم طب السرطان الجزيئي والسريري Department of Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine	3
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### 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	عدد الرسائل و الأطاريح التي قيّمها لغويا	2
	1	26	
	4	4	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
9	اكثر من 50		
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
14	4		
خارج العراق	داخل العراق	عدد الجوائز و الشهادات التقديرية داخل و خارج العراق	8
1	3		
خارج العراق	داخل العراق	عدد الدورات التطويرية و التدريبية التي شارك فيها	9
7	6		
خارج التعليم	داخل التعليم العالي	عدد اللجان التي شارك بعضويتها داخل و خارج وزارة التعليم العالي	10
1	اكثر من 25		
أخرى	عميد كلية	رئيس جامعة	وزير
	8	6	2
أخرى	عميد كلية	رئيس جامعة	وزير
لايوجد	لايوجد	لايوجد	لايوجد
			عدد العقوبات
			12

بالإضافة الى العديد من النشاطات العلمية الاكاديمية والبحثية داخل و خارج العراق وكما مبين في النسخة الانكليزية من هذه  
السيرة الذاتية المذكورة انفا .