NETWORK OF IRAQI SCIENTISTS ABROAD
شبكة العلماء العراقيين في الخارج

Professor Munira A Kadhim
Professor of Radiation Biology
Head of Genomic Instability Research Group
School of Life Sciences,
Oxford Brookes University,
Oxford, OX3 0BP, UK
Tel: 44 (0)1865 483954
Email – mkadhim@brookes.ac.uk

Munira Kadhim is a Professor of Radiation Biology and Head of Genomic Instability Research Group at the School of Life Sciences, Oxford Brookes University, UK. Prof Kadhim was born in Baghdad, graduated with a BSc in Biological Sciences from Baghdad University and gained her PhD from the University of Wales, Swansea, UK in Genetics in 1982, where she held various postdoctoral research positions and tutoring until August 1990. In September 1990's Munira moved to work at the Medical Research Council, Oxfordshire, UK, holding a series of positions before joining Oxford Brookes as Professor of Radiation Biology in 2007.

In the early part of her work at MRC, her research work led to a significant discovery that challenged the conventional paradigm/model of a hit-effect relationship for radiation, (i.e. a radiation 'hit' is necessary for a biological effect). This led to the establishment of Genomic Chromosomal instability as an important consequence of high Linear Energy Transfer (LET) radiation exposure (such as radiation from background Radon and nuclear industry) both in mouse and human Heamopoietic stem cells (Kadhim et al, 1992, Nature, 355, 738-740; The Lancet, 344, 987-988.1994). The new emerging paradigm, also referred to as "Non Targeted Effects", revealed many interesting patterns of radiation induced biological effects that included active cellular processes initiated by radiation, and perpetuated with time, such as Genomic Instability (GI) in irradiated and bystander cells. The success and the adoption of the new paradigm has led to improved understanding of radiation Biology, and resulted in substantial funding to Kadhim's research group from UK, EU and US funding bodies including the US Department of Energy and NASA. Professor's research record includes over 100 publications, 9 major research grants, and chairing several international workshop/conference sessions. She has established an extensive network of collaboration with internationally renowned research institutes. She is regularly invited to deliver lectures at international conferences in the field of radiobiology, and to review journal papers and grant applications.

At Oxford Brookes University, Professor Kadhim's research continues in the field of Radiation Induced Genomic Instability and Bystander Effects with the focus on determine and characterise the factors influencing these responses (cell type, radiation quality and genotype); to study the relationship between responses in these two populations, including possible underlying mechanisms, and to identify practical health and risk implications (e.g. initiation and progression of cancer; environmental, occupational and medical risks of radiation exposure). Professor Kadhim's intends to transfer her research knowledge to collaborate with universities in Kurdistan and Iraq to investigate various observed effects on health and the environment as a result of 30 years of conflicts. Already two Iraqi academics were trained in her Lab and she is supervising an Iraqi PhD student funded by Ministry of HE.