



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS

KELLY SHEEHAN-ROONEY
13TH JANUARY 2014

Outline

WHAT I'M GOING TO COVER:

- Kelly's background and role at CRUK
- What can you apply for?
- The next step: your own lab
- Top tips for grant writing

From the lab to grant management.....



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WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?



CANCER RESEARCH

Career support from CRUK

Personal support

- Population Research Fellowship
- Cancer Prevention Fellowship
- Clinician Scientist Fellowship
- Research Travel Award

Career Development Fellowship

Senior Cancer Research Fellowship

PhD

Post-doc

Post-doc

Lecturer

Reader

Professor

Posts on research grants

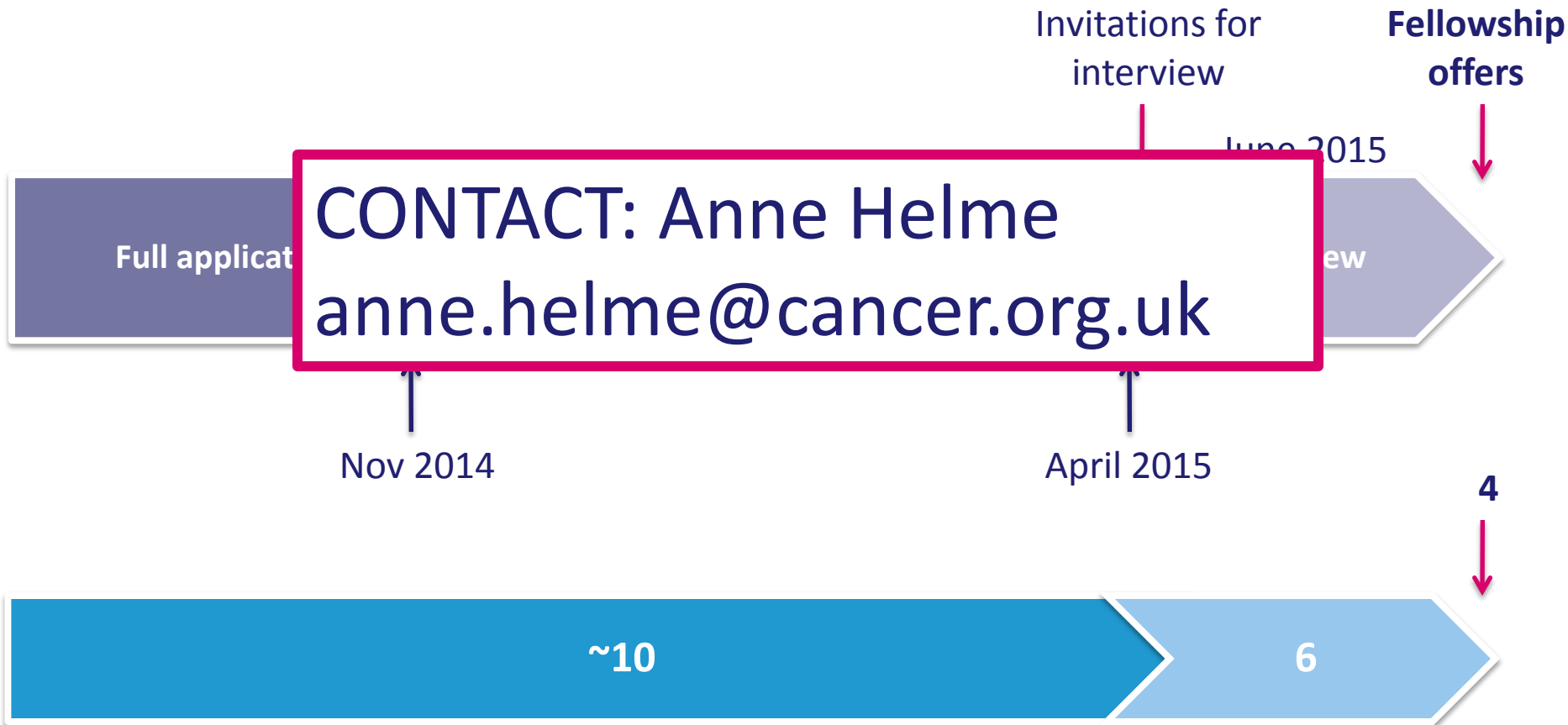
Career Establishment Awards

Programme grants

University support



Timelines and success rates: *Population & Cancer Prevention Fellowship*



Timelines and success rates: *New Investigator Awards*

Invitations for full applications

Invitations for interview

Fellowship offers

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4th July
2014

September
2014

November
2014

March
2015

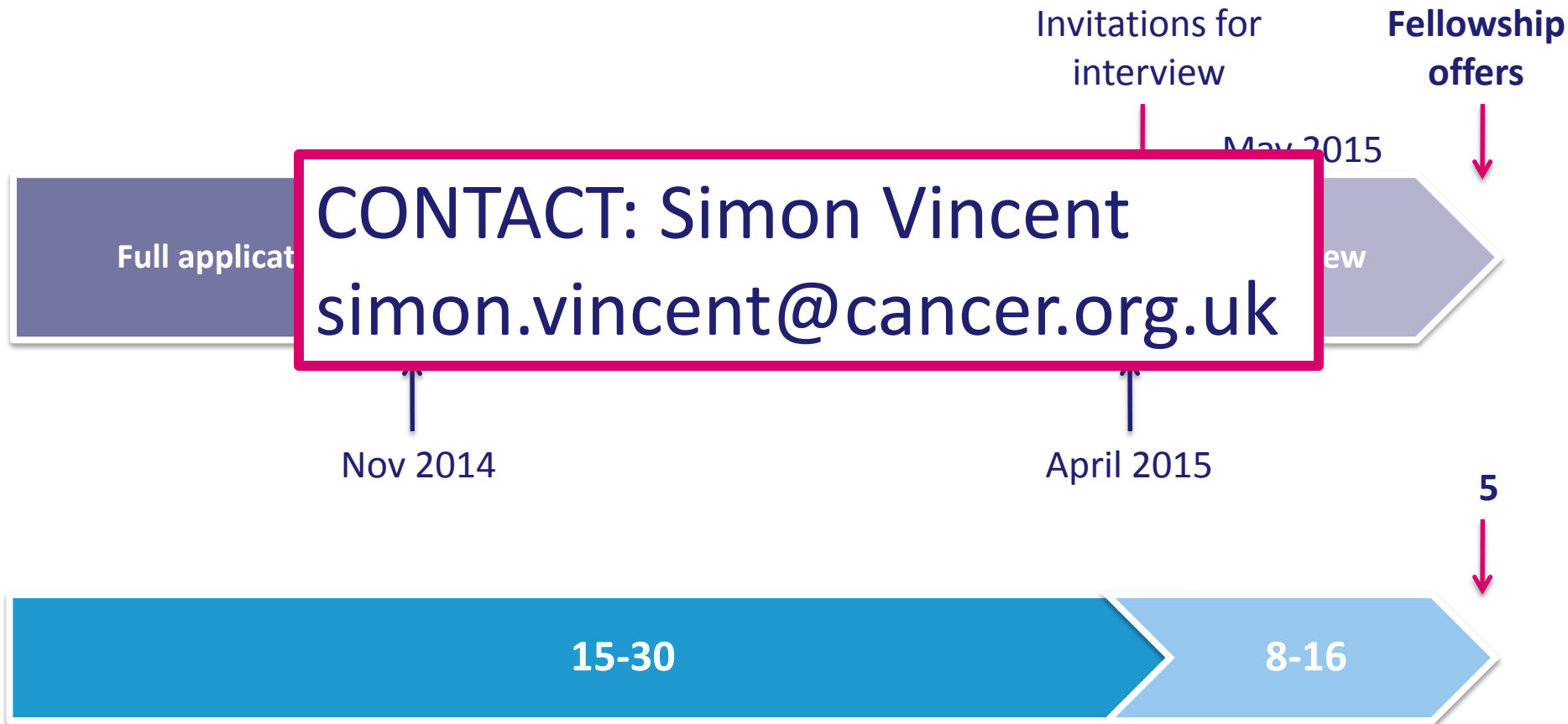
7-10

80-100

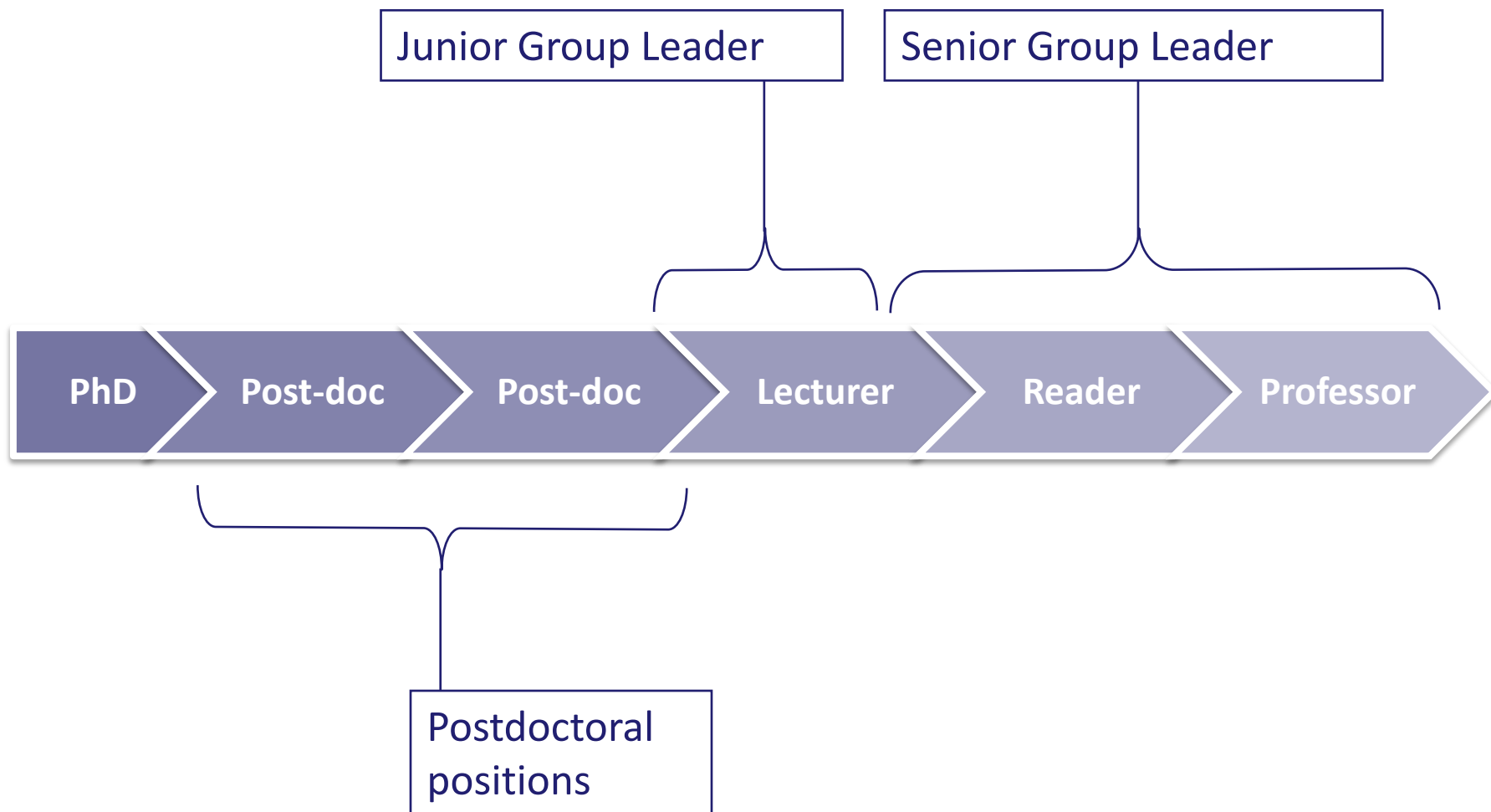
30-40

16

Timelines and success rates: *Clinician Scientist Fellowships*



Career support at CRUK Institutes



A photograph of two female scientists in a laboratory. They are both wearing white lab coats and blue nitrile gloves. The scientist on the left is using a red pipette, and the scientist on the right is using a white pipette. They are both looking intently at their work. In the background, there are shelves with various lab equipment and supplies. A blue speech bubble with white text is overlaid on the image, and a red circle with a white number '3' is positioned below it.

**THE NEXT STEP:
YOUR OWN LAB**

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Weigh up your options

A PERSONAL FELLOWSHIP

- Independence - it is your money!
- Status - personal fellowships are prestigious awards
- Security - protected time for research

BUT ...

- Competitive
- Long application process
- Limited eligibility

What are the alternatives?

INSTITUTE GROUP LEADER

- Well supported, no teaching

BUT ...

- Restricted areas of research, tenure review



UNIVERSITY LECTURER

- Access to grants, teaching, career path

BUT ...

- Less infrastructure, administrative burden





**TOP TIPS
FOR GRANT
WRITING**

4

How to get a grant

WHAT TO DO

- Plan ahead
- Hedge your bets
- Talk to the funding agencies
- Tailor your application



How to get a grant

WHAT TO WRITE

- Identify a selling point
- Show evidence that you can deliver:
 - Preliminary data
 - Track record
 - Collaborations
- Justify everything
- Say what could go wrong

Why do grants fail?

- It's not relevant to cancer
- It's poorly written
- There are no contingency plans
- They can't hope to be competitive in this field
- It is too descriptive and there is no clear hypothesis
- It's just a fishing expedition
- The preliminary data is insufficient/unconvincing
- There is a lack of experimental detail
- There is far more work than they could achieve
- It's already been done



My main tips

FINDING FUNDING

- Talk to funders about what is available to you

WRITING A GRANT

- Applications are judged on Project, Place and Person
- Show your application to colleagues

SURVIVING THE INTERVIEW

- Practise with senior staff



QUESTIONS?

cruk.org

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