

**Mark Cobbold, Senior Clinical Research Fellow, University of Birmingham**

Mark Cobbold is currently a Senior Clinical Research Fellow at the Medical School, University of Birmingham. He qualified in medicine in 1995 from the University of Edinburgh, and then began his scientific career in Birmingham in 2000 where, under Paul Moss, he studied cellular immunotherapy for patients who had received stem cell transplants (SCT) receiving a PhD in 2005. During this period he has pioneered a novel T cell selection technology for manipulating and selecting antigen-specific cells for therapeutic use and conducted a successful Phase I clinical trial using cytomegalovirus (CMV) specific T-cells. This early work led him to become interested in how donor immunity is able to cure a recipient of cancer and was successful in obtaining an MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship to advance this work whilst undertaking clinical training in Clinical Immunology. As a Clinical Immunologist he is a founding member of a team that developed a novel cancer diagnostic for the diagnosis and management of myeloma and formed a spin-out company SeraScience Ltd in 2012. SeraLite™ was launched in April 2013 and gained regulatory approval in July 2013. He spent 2-years at the University of Virginia with Don Hunt and Vic Engelhard and become interested in novel tumour antigens on primary leukaemia samples. He has shown the clinical relevance of these antigens and shown that immune responses against a subset of these may contribute toward graft vs leukaemia effect of SCT.