

Biosketch:

Prof Konstantinos (Kostas) Tzelepis is a faculty member and Wellcome Trust Investigator (Wellcome CDA) at the Cambridge Stem Cell Institute and the Department of Haematology (University of Cambridge - UK). Prior to this, he was a Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Wellcome Fellow at Harvard University (USA) and the University of Cambridge (UK). He obtained his Wellcome-funded Ph.D. in Molecular Genetics from the Sanger Institute and the University of Cambridge, in 2017, where he developed the first genome-wide CRISPR screening platform for the identification and therapeutic translation of novel cancer vulnerabilities. Kostas became a Group Leader at the Milner Therapeutics Institute at the end of 2019 before moving to the CSCI and the Department of Haematology in 2022.

The Tzelepis group investigates the relevance of RNA modifications in normal and malignant stem cell biology, with a strong translational focus. Recently, his group co-developed and characterized a range of pre-clinical and clinical epitranscriptomic modalities. The latest discoveries from the Tzelepis lab on novel RNA biology of disease have so far led to the creation of several licenses - international patents – SRA agreements, 2 company creations, Phase 1 and Phase 2 clinical trials (STC-15) and total venture capital raising of circa 150 million USD.

Kostas is leading a team of 9 scientists at the Cambridge Stem Cell Institute and another team of 5 scientists at the Sanger Institute (Open Targets, co-led by David Adams). The lab has been awarded so far close to 8 million pounds of research funds from various sources including Wellcome, MRC, CRUK, Leukaemia UK, Open Targets and other biotech collaborations.