

We combine excellence in research, teaching and patient care. The University Hospital Bonn is a maximum care hospital with more than 1,300 beds. With around 38 clinics and 31 institutes as well as more than 8,000 employees (over 5,000 full-time staff), the UKB is one of the largest employers in Bonn. Every year, the UKB treats around 50,000 inpatients and around 35,000 emergencies, as well as providing over 350,000 outpatient treatments.

The research group **Immune Pathophysiology** at the **Department of Surgery** invites applications for a

PhD Student in Intestinal Neuroinflammation (m/f/d) (part-time position 65 %)

The position is available from spring 2022 for a period of 3.5 years, with the possibility of extension.

The group is embedded into the Cluster of Excellence ImmunoSensation2 in Bonn and offers a great environment for young researchers. We investigate the neuroimmune interactions between the enteric nervous system and tumor-associated immune cells in the development of colorectal carcinoma (CRC). Enteric glia (EGC) are specialized cells of the enteric nervous system which acquire a reactive state during inflammation in which they release distinct cytokines and chemokines to recruit and interact with local immune cells, e.g. macrophages. In this PhD project, we are interested to understand how distinct immune mediators, released by reactive glial cells, affect the tumor growth, tumor microenvironment and the phenotype of tumor-associated macrophages and myeloid derived suppressor cells in CRC.

The PhD position will be integrated into the local graduate program BIGS Immunosciences and Infection with outstanding training opportunities in multidisciplinary, interconnected scientific fields and will be supported by additional mentoring and networking opportunities. PhD students will benefit from state-of-the-art technologies and laboratories, a vibrant scientific network and an internationally competitive scientific training program.

Requirements

- Master degree or diploma in Life Science (Biology, Biomedicine, Molecular Medicine or comparable fields of study)
- Expertise in *in vivo* disease models with a preference on tumor models
- Strong experience in flow cytometry, primary cell culture
- Experience in RNAseq analyses (e.g. by R or Partek) are of great advantage
- Ability to work independently and in a team
- Excellent time management and communication skills
- High intrinsic motivation and enthusiasm as well as a deep interest in Biomedicine and Infection Biology
- English or German skills at C1 level or higher

We offer

- A salary according to the German salary scale TV-L E13
- Price reduced ticket for the local public transport (Jobticket)
- Possibility to use the day care center
- Supplementary benefits in the public sector (pension plan according to VBL)
- An innovative and clinically relevant research project with the availability of state of the art techniques, established disease models and state of the art instrumentations in our lab and in the multiple core facilities at the campus.
- A good methodical education and excellent supervision in a friendly group
- Possibility for further education in university and non-university courses

The University of Bonn is committed to diversity and equal opportunity. It is certified as a family-friendly university. It aims to increase the proportion of women in areas where women are under-represented and to promote their careers in particular. It therefore urges women with relevant qualifications to apply. Applications will be handled in accordance with the Landesgleichstellungsgesetz (State Equality Act). Applications from suitable individuals with a certified serious disability and those of equal status are particularly welcome.

Contact information

Applications and questions regarding the project should be addressed to Prof. Dr. Sven Wehner via the group secretary Xenia Zoller. Applications should refer to the reference number 746_2021 and consist of a cover letter, CV, copies of the last university degree (MSc or equivalent) and two reference contacts and should be sent **exclusively by email as a single PDF** to:

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