A PhD position (m/f/d) (65%) is available at the Institute of Virology, University of Bonn Medical School, Germany.

Investigations into bacteriophage immunogenicity

The position starts as soon as possible and is for a period of 3 years, with the possibility of an extension.

The University Hospital Bonn is deemed a Cluster of Excellence ImmunoSensation 2. The PhD studentship will be based within labs at the Institute of Virology under newly appointed Director of Institute of Virology, Prof. Dr. med. Hendrik Streeck.

The ideal candidate will be a highly motivated individual with aspirations towards conducting scientific research in the area of human immunology. The candidate should hold a high-quality BSc degree in Biology/ Physiology/ Immunology or related subject with accompanied Master’s degree (Immunology or related subject). The candidate needs to be able to research, discuss, design and execute novel experiments within the field of viral, inflammatory and/or bacterial immunology.

The PhD studentship will evolve around researching the potential effects that bacteriophages (phages) have on the human immune system. The discovery of antibiotics marked a turning point in human medicine in the fight against bacterial infections. Nearly 100 years later the widespread use and over-use of these molecules had led to bacterial strains that are resistant to antimicrobials. Phages, being viruses that infect and kill bacteria, are one of the best alternative options in the fight against these antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains with some successful human trials already completed. However, the potential immune repercussions of fighting bacterial infections with phages are considerably under-researched.

Prior experience with human cell culture, general cell culture techniques, and immunological readouts are crucial. Experience with mouse experimentation, molecular biology techniques, microscopy, scientific presentation, and scientific writing are highly desirable alongside fluent-level English speaking and writing.

The PhD position will be integrated into the THEME PhD Program of the University of Bonn Medical School. We offer supportive mentoring and a well-equipped laboratory. Successful candidates will be awarded a PhD upon graduation.

We offer:

- The salary will be according to the German salary scale TV-L EG 13
- There is also a possibility to use the day-care centre
- Supplementary benefits in the public sector (pension plan according to VBL)

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.

Questions concerning the project can be addressed to Ryan.Nattrass@ukbonn.de
Applications should be in English and include a CV and motivational cover letter and can be sent to Daniela.Holtin@ukbonn.de. Please refer to the application number 062_2020.

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