

The **Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Pharmacology** at the Faculty of Medicine of the **Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms-University Bonn** invites applications for a

PhD position – Dietary regulation of immune cells

The position is available for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of extension.

We are seeking a highly motivated candidate to fill a Ph.D. student position in dietary immunology in the research group of **Christoph Wilhelm** at the University Hospital Bonn (UKB), University of Bonn. Dietary immunology is an emerging field that investigates how dietary compounds and metabolites regulate the immune system. The project will investigate how diets (e.g. high-fat diet, ketogenic diets) and dietary components drive or reverse inflammation and includes the analysis of metabolic pathways controlling tissue resident immune cells such as T cells and innate lymphoid cells (ILC) (*Karagiannis et al. Nature 2022*, Theodorou et al. *BioRxiv 2024*, Wientjens et al. *Immunity 2025*). To investigate these processes the candidate will use mouse models, transcriptomics, classical immunological methods but also cutting-edge technologies, such as imaging flow cytometry, metabolomics, proteomics and extracellular flux analysis. In addition, the project has potential to utilize links with clinicians to translate findings to human patients. The overall aim is to identify novel dietary intervention strategies that are effective to reverse inflammation in diabetes and to treat chronic inflammation. Candidates with experience in cellular immunology, molecular cell biology or biochemistry are specifically encouraged to apply.

We offer:

- To work in a motivated team in a thriving research environment
- Attractive conditions and benefits, an interdisciplinary research institution that fosters innovation and collaboration and are committed to training and career development of the next generation of scientists
- **Responsible and versatile:** a job with a lot of creative freedom in a collegial team
- **Flexible for families:** flexible working time models, the option of a place in the company day-care center and offers for those returning from parental leave
- **Provision for later:** company pension scheme
- **Clever to work:** Possibility of an interest-free loan to buy an e-bike
- **Tailor-made education:** Subsidized further education and training
- **Systematic start:** Structured induction
- **Healthy at work:** Numerous health promotion offers, free membership in UKBfit
- **Employer benefits:** preferential offers for employees (corporate benefits)

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.

Applications should include a cover letter, CV, certificates, and names and addresses of two referees and be send by e-mail in a single PDF file until 31st of January 2026 to

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