

2 PhD Student Positions in the field of Immunology/ T cell biology funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

T cells are important players in the onset of a specific immune response, tailor the defense against pathogens that escaped the first line of immune protection and actively participate in the formation of a correct immunological memory. They can however also lead to allergy or autoimmune diseases if they are improperly regulated. Therefore, factors and pathways that shape T cell responses are important to study in order to find targets for immune modulation.

The projects: The FWF-funded projects focus on studies to determine how T cells are regulated by a recently identified novel guanine nucleotide exchange factor using a combination of molecular and cellular immunological experiments, genetic mouse models, molecular biology and biochemical/proteomics approaches. Both projects are well defined and interconnected, allowing the successful candidates to lead their work while interacting as a team.

The Research Groups: The PhD students will be embedded in a highly multidisciplinary and collaborative research environment at the Institute of Immunology, Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology. In addition, the PhD students will benefit from the close proximity of the Vienna General Hospital (AKH), as parts of the projects also involve collaborations with clinical departments.

The cellular/molecular project will be under the supervision of Nicole Boucheron and the proteomic/biochemical project under the supervision of Ruth Herbst. Details about the host laboratories can be found at:

Ruth Herbst: cluster.meduniwien.ac.at/index.php?id=11256

Nicole Boucheron: cluster.meduniwien.ac.at/index.php?id=7433

The Candidates: Applicants should hold a master's degree in molecular biology, biochemistry, or a related discipline and have documented experience in molecular biology and mammalian cell culture methods. Previous experience with cloning, transfection, immunoblot assays, immunocytochemistry, immunological assays, primary cell cultures and/or flow cytometry is advantageous.

We are looking for highly motivated students who are enthusiastic about working on fundamental biological questions with applications to important clinical problems. You should be a critical scientist with a creative mind and a team player with proficient communication skills.

Please send applications (including CV, a letter of intent and contact information of at least two referees) as a single pdf to the address below. Informal enquiries are welcome.

Nicole.Boucheron@meduniwien.ac.at