



Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (f/m/d) in Oncology Research / Preclinical Imaging / Molecular Biology / Immunology



The Department of Preclinical Imaging and Radiopharmacy (Director Prof. Bernd Pichler) of the University Hospital Tübingen, an internationally renowned group at the forefront of preclinical imaging research, is offering a position for a

Post-Doctoral Fellow (f/m/d) in Oncology Research / Preclinical Imaging / Molecular Biology / Immunology

The position (100 %) is initially limited for 2 years with the plan for further extension.

The Department of Preclinical Imaging and Radiopharmacy is a powerful research oriented group focusing on imaging sciences in the areas of oncology, immunology, infectious diseases and neurology. We develop and apply disease specific imaging tracers to monitor therapeutic approaches or pathophysiology in vivo utilizing novel imaging technologies and state-of-the art molecular biology methods.

The successful candidate will work on the image-guided therapeutic exploitation of therapy-induced senescence of cancers at the interface between target identification, drug design, development of imaging biomarkers, preclinical testing, and clinical translation. Cellular senescence is considered to be a major stress response of tumor cells towards cancer therapies. Non-invasive imaging of senescence in cancers has direct therapeutic implications. For example, upon therapy-mediated induction of senescence, an application of senolytic therapies might be indicated. Senolytic therapies are designed to specifically eradicate senescent cells and may further increase long term therapeutic success.

Alternatively, image-guided detection of senescence might instruct the application of combination therapies, such as pharmacological therapies modulating the senescence-associated secretory phenotype or the use of immuno-therapies synergizing with a pro-immunogenic therapy induced senescence response. In our ongoing project, first patients were successfully imaged with a newly developed PET tracer for senescence. The successful candidate should drive forward the initiation of a trial with all options for cross-validation, correlation of the senescence imaging signal with immunohistochemical markers on biopsy sections, correlation with prognosis, imaging guided use of combination therapies. Moreover, we have several potential PET tracer candidates which have not been sufficiently tested yet and hold the promise for further enhanced sensitivity. The successful candidate will conduct the required basic and translational research in a goal-oriented manner to lay the foundations for a safe and effective therapeutic exploitation of senescence-based therapies in the clinic.

In this context we are looking for an enthusiastic and highly motivated Post-Doc, who is eager to work in an interdisciplinary environment. The successful candidate should share our ambition to prove that optimized molecular and functional imaging of therapy-induced senescence will enable the implementation of image-guided senolytic therapies, senescence modulating therapies and combinatorial cancer therapies. The candidate to be recruited should ideally combine scientific expertise in molecular- and cell biology with immunology and have a profound knowledge in the field of oncology. Experience with hands-on preclinical PET imaging is a plus but not a requirement.

We offer to work on a high scientific level in a experienced and well-funded research team with an excellent interdisciplinary infrastructure providing a state-of-the art life science and clinical environment. We offer the opportunity to publish in leading international journals and present the research to an international scientific community. Furthermore, we are connected to a strong network providing an excellent platform to cooperate with local, national and international research labs. We offer remuneration in accordance with TV-L (collective wage agreement for the Public Service of the German Federal States) in addition to all the customary benefits granted to employees working in Public Services. Severely handicapped persons with equal qualifications are given preferential consideration. The University of Tübingen is anxious to increase its quota of female scientific staff, and therefore emphatically requests women to apply for this position. The Administration of the University Hospital is responsible for all employment matters. Personnel appointments will be made pursuant to the fundamental stipulations of the legal statutes for universities in Germany. Interview expenses are not covered.

For questions, please contact Office WSIC, Tel.: 07071 29-87443, E-Mail: Office.WSIC@med.uni-tuebingen.de

Application Deadline: **28.05.2021**.

Please send your application documents exclusively as PDF attachments by e-mail quoting the reference number **10985** to:

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