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 currently looking for a

PhD Student in Chemistry/Biochemistry

The fellowship is awarded via a H2020-MSCA-ITN-ETN project and is available from 1st of January 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter for a 3-year period. The ITN project aims to develop a positron emission tomography (PET) tracer to non-invasively assess α-synuclein aggregation in the brain of patients with Parkinson’s disease (PD). In contrast to the situation in Alzheimer’s disease, biomarkers to detect α-synuclein oligomers or aggregates in PD are still missing. The PhD fellowship is part of a training programme PET-AlphaSy consisting in total 15 PhD students located in 5 European countries (Denmark, Sweden, Netherlands, Germany, Belgium). The fellows will attend common training sessions, e.g. within radiopharmaceutical chemistry or imaging and have secondments at the corresponding partner universities and companies.

**Project description:** Protein aggregation modulators from the diphenylpyrazole family are known to bind to bind to synuclein aggregates. However, their pharmacokinetic properties, in particular their high lipophilicity and their metabolic instability, hamper their development into PET tracers. This project aims to introduce selected modifications for optimization of these compounds and to analyze the effect of these modifications. Optimized candidate molecules will be radiolabeled and analyzed for their performance as PET tracers for Parkinson's disease.

**Planned secondments:**
- VU Amsterdam
- Elysia-Raytest (Liège)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Andreas Maurer

We are looking for highly motivated individuals with a strong background/experience in organic chemistry or radiochemistry.

At the time of commencement, it is required that the candidates have not been awarded a PhD degree and are within the first 4 years (full-time equivalent) of their research careers. Furthermore the candidates must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Germany for more than 12 month in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment.

The application must be submitted electronically and must include:

• Cover letter: stating the interest in and qualifications for the project (max. one page)
• Full CV
• Diploma and transcripts of records: Master’s degree diploma (including grade transcripts for bachelor’s and master’s degrees)
• Possible references and recommendations

The position is financed by the EU via a H2020-MSCA-ITN-ETN project. 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 further information and in case of questions please contact Dr. Andreas Maurer
Phone: 0049 7071 27-87490

Application deadline is **30.11.2018**

Please submit your application by E-Mail only (attached PDF) indicating the **reference number 9088** to:

Universitätsklinikum Tübingen
Radiologische Klinik: Präklinische Bildgebung und Radiopharmazie
Röntgenweg 13
72076 Tübingen
(Germany)

E-Mail: Office.WSIC@med.uni-tuebingen.de