

PhD position in Pediatric Cancer Epigenetics, Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona, Spain

The Pediatric Cancer Epigenetics group led by Dr. Alexandra Avgustinova is recruiting one PhD student to investigate the molecular mechanisms underlying epigenomically-driven tumorigenesis, using Malignant Rhabdoid Tumours (MRTs) as a model.

MRTs are highly malignant and heterogeneous pediatric cancers with abysmal prognosis (5 year survival < 20%). They are characterized by biallelic inactivation of the SWI/SNF subunit SMARCB1, which at the same time represents their only recurrent mutation, making MRTs the best example of epigenetically-driven tumorigenesis. Our larger mission is to identify new clinical intervention nodes for the treatment of MRTs and hence to improve patient welfare and prognosis.

The project is multidisciplinary and will involve the use of cell and molecular biology, CRISPR/Cas9, cytometry, microscopy, (epi)genomics and computational biology techniques.

Responsibilities:

- Planning, implementation and performing research experiments
- Analysis, interpretation and presentation of research findings
- Contribution to research reports and publications
- Scientific literature review and development of new ideas

Requirements:

- Master's Degree (or equivalent) in biology, life sciences or a related discipline
- Practical experience in cell and molecular biology techniques
- Excellent organisation, communication and documentation skills
- Proficiency in English (oral and written)
- Strong interest in cancer genomics and epigenomics
- Collegiality and ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Creativity and critical thinking are encouraged
- License and practical skills in animal experimentation (FELASA B or comparable) are desirable

We offer:

The Pediatric Cancer Epigenomics lab is hosted at the recently inaugurated Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona, associated with the Sant Joan de Déu Hospital. We offer an interesting and versatile work place, a pleasant working atmosphere and access to institutional facilities (Histopathology Unit, Cytometry Unit, Cellular Imaging Unit, Animal Unit, etc.). The PhD student will be enrolled at the Universitat de Barcelona (UB). We work in close collaboration with clinicians at Hospital Sant Joan de Déu in order to close the gap between basic and translational cancer research.

Job information:

Expected start date: Autumn 2022
Contract length: 3 years, possibility to extend to 4 years.
Application deadline: 20th July 2022

To apply: <https://hospitalsantjoandedeu.talentclue.com/en/node/87799497/12623479>
Please submit academic transcripts and a cover letter with your application.