Universitätsmedizin Essen
Universitätsklinikum

Vacancy

The University Hospital Essen offers first class medical services in the Ruhr metropolis. Every year, 225.000 patients are treated in 30 clinics, 27 institutes and specialized centers. The over 8.000 employees offer medical care with state-of-the art diagnostics and therapies, which meet highest international standards. Patient care is connected with basic and translational research at an internationally competitive level.

PhD Student (m/f/d)

(pay grade: EG 13 TV-L)

Work Area: Institute for Experimental Tumour Therapy
Job ID: 13914

Start Date: Next possible date
Work Scope: Parttime (25,025 hours per week)
Contract Type: Temporary contract
Contract duration: 30. June 2030; in accordance with § 2 (2) WissZeitVG for the duration of the project

Your tasks:

Opportunity to conduct high-level interdisciplinary research within the newly established DFG-funded Collaborative Research Centre CRC/SFB 1752 "DYNAMO", investigating the earliest mechanisms of therapy resistance in melanoma during the first days and weeks after therapy initiation:

- Work in Project B01
- Deciphering fibroblast heterogeneity and its implications for immune checkpoint inhibitor response in melanoma
- Investigation of fibroblasts, melanoma, and T cell interactions in the context of immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) response and resistance in melanoma
- Multiplex imaging and spatial characterization of tumor–immune interactions
- Contribution to experimental design and execution of immune-oncology focused and in vitro and ex vivo functional assays
- Gene expression analyses (e.g. qPCR) and cytokine/chemokine profiling in tumor–immune interaction models
- Data analysis, interpretation, and integration of experimental results in collaboration with computational project partners
- Participation in presentation of scientific results at meetings and conferences

Your profile:

- Completed Diploma or Master degree in molecular biology or cancer biology, immunology, cell biology, bioinformatics, translational medicine or related disciplines

- Strong interest in melanoma biology, tumor immunology, immune checkpoint therapy, translational cancer research, and tumor–immune interactions
- Strong interest in multiplex/spatial imaging approaches (e.g. Phenocycler or related platforms)
- Experience in molecular and cellular biology techniques
- Experience with cell culture, cytokine profiling, flow cytometry and/or microscopy is desirable
- Experience with bioinformatics or biostatistics is advantageous
- Ability to work independently and in interdisciplinary teams, specifically bridging melanoma biology and tumor immunology
- Ability to work closely with the second B01 project team and contribute to active scientific exchange
- High level of self-motivation, scientific curiosity, reliability, personal initiative, creativity, and team-oriented personality
- Enthusiasm for hands-on experimental and computational research and active contribution to a dynamic, international, and collaborative research environment
- Strong organizational skills, commitment, and the ability to drive projects forward independently
- Fluent in spoken and written English

Your application should include:

- Letter of motivation describing research interests and motivation for joining the project
- Curriculum vitae (CV) including publication list, if applicable
- Copies of academic certificates and transcripts
- Contact details of TWO academic referees or letters of recommendation

Look forward to:

- Cutting-edge research & technology innovative project:
- Participation in a newly established DFG-funded Collaborative Research Centre featuring a strong interdisciplinary translational focus on tumor dynamics and immune modulation in melanoma
- Access to state-of-the-art technologies including spatial transcriptomics, multiplex imaging, cytokine/chemokine profiling, confocal microscopy and AI-supported data integration
- Networking & collaboration in the scientific community:
- Integration into an interdisciplinary, internationally visible cancer immunology research network
- Diverse teams: daily interaction with professional colleagues across experimental, computational, and clinical research
- Exchange opportunities: excellent avenues for close scientific collaboration and external career development
- Mentoring & career development: Structured guidance: continuous, high-quality mentoring tailored to your academic progression
- Enrollment into the Graduate School for Biomedical Science ‘BIOME’ (https://www.uni-due.de/biome/)

- Skill building: active participation in CRC events, lab rotations, hands-on workshops, and specialized training activities
- Work environment & infrastructure: Top-tier facilities: excellent institutional infrastructure located directly at the University Hospital Essen campus
- A secure job in the public service of the state of NRW
- Fair payment in accordance with the collective wage agreement (TV-L) incl. annual bonus payment and supplementary company pension scheme
- 30 days of vacation per calendar year (for a full-time position)
- Interdisciplinary work with colleagues from other departments
- Working with modern equipment and certified quality standards
- Family-friendly corporate culture, e.g. company daycare center, vacation program for school-age children, advice and support from the Employee Service Office in all life situations
- Wide range of training and continuing education opportunities, e.g. at the Training Academy of UK Essen
- Health Management, e.g. company integration management, vaccinations, promotion of sports activities
- Attractive fringe benefits, e.g. reduced-price canteen meals, community events, accommodation in student residences.

General conditions:

- The pay grade classification depends on the personal and collective legal prerequisites.
- The University Hospital Essen is an equal opportunity employer. Female scientists are particularly encouraged to apply.
- The participation in secondary employment depends on the „Hochschulnebentätigkeitsverordnung“ of North-Rhine Westphalia.
- Disabled applicants will be preferentially considered in case of equivalent qualification.

You will find detailed information on the job advertisement and contact persons behind the button - Apply now:

https://bewerbung-karriere.ume.de/Vacancies/13914/Application/CheckLogin/1

We use your data exclusively for application purposes in accordance with the applicable data protection regulations. Further information can be found in the privacy statement on our homepage at: www.uk-essen.de.