Microencapsulation and differentiation of iPSC for extracorporeal liver supply

Laboratory of Biomechanics & Bioengineering
University of Technology of Compiègne – France
Laboratory “Physiopathology and treatment of liver diseases”
Inserm U1193 - Université Paris Saclay - Hôpital Paul Brousse – Villejuif - France

Duration: 1 year
Stipend (gross): ≈ €67,000 per annum + mobility allowance

Vacancy Information
Within the FP7 EU-funded Marie-Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) “BIOART” (Training network for developing innovative (bio)artificial devices for treatment of kidney and liver disease) one postdoctoral position is available at Laboratory of Biomechanics & Bioengineering, at the University of Technology of Compiègne (France) under the supervision of Dr. Cécile LEGALLAIS, in close collaboration with Dr. A. Dubart-Kupperschmitt, INSERM U 1193, Villejuif, FR. The position, fully funded by the BIOART project, is tenable for 1 year and should be fulfilled in October-December 2015.

Job description
The Initial Training Network set-up within the BIOART Project aims at providing state-of-the-art multidisciplinary training for a cohort of 16 young researchers in order to equip them with the skills required to make a significant impact in the treatment of kidney and liver diseases. Within this framework, the experienced researcher (ER) at UTC will be involved in the development of iPSC encapsulation process to guide cell differentiation into hepatic lineages. iPSC will be encapsulated in alginate beads and cultivated under dynamic conditions in bioreactors. The differentiated encapsulated cells will be further use in extracorporeal circuit or implanted in relevant pre-clinical models. Most part of the work will be performed at Inserm U1193 under the supervision of Dr. A. Dubart-Kupperschmitt, expert in the culture and differentiation of such cells. The postdoc position is fully funded by the FP7 BIOART project and includes a gross stipend of € 67 000 per annum plus a mobility allowance starting from € 700 per month.

Person Specification
Eligible candidates must hold a PhD in Tissue Engineering or Cell Biology. They should demonstrate skills in iPSC or ES cell culture. Knowledge in the use of bioreactors for tissue engineering or in liver cell biology will be regarded as a significant plus.
For a preliminary evaluation of the applicant profile, a cover letter describing previous research experience and current interests, an updated CV, a copy of both academic degree and official transcripts along with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to: cecile.legallais@utc.fr and anne.dubart@inserm.fr.

Eligibility
According to the FP7-PEOPLE-2012-ITN rules, eligible candidates must, at the time of recruitment (i) be in possession of a doctoral degree, independently of the time taken to acquire it, or (ii) have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience, including the period of research training, after obtaining the degree which formally allowed them to embark on a doctorate in the country in which the
degree/diploma was obtained or in the host country. In addition, they should have less than 5 years of total research experience (including PhD). Finally, they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date.

Documents required to apply:
Send to cecile.legallais@utc.fr / anne.dubart@inserm.fr
- Curriculum vitae
- Motivation letter
- At least two references and/or recommendation letters
- A statement of research experience and interests

Deadline for Application: October 1st, 2015