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Postdoctoral Research Fellow (m/f/d)



Max-Planck-Institut für Biologie des Alterns



♀ Köln

The Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing (MPI-AGE) was founded in 2008 with the aim to understand fundamental mechanisms of healthy ageing. It is part of a broad network of research institutions in the Cologne-Bonn area dedicated to research on ageing, metabolism, and age-related disease, including the CECAD Cluster of Excellent in the University of Cologne and the Max Planck Institute for Metabolism Research, constituting a vibrant and collaborative environment for research. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology and excellent core facilities, to which the successful candidate will have access, the institute provides outstanding research opportunities for its scientists. At the moment, we host employees from more than 30 different nations.

Activities and responsibilities

We are interested in revealing the molecular secrets of ADP-ribosylation, a challenging PTM that plays key roles in health and disease. Using advanced proteomics, we uncovered serine ADPr as a new type of histone mark (Nature Chemical Biology 2016) and described the underlying molecular mechanisms by identifying its 'readers' (Mol Cell 2017) and 'eraser' (eLife 2017). Crucially, we and others have shown that Ser-ADPr is the primary form of ADPr in the DNA damage response (eLife 2018). Overall, these findings are reversing 50 years of consensus understanding and have opened up a large and novel research area aiming to elucidate how site-specific ADPr regulates the DNA damage response and chromatin dynamics. In this context, we have revealed an interplay between Ser-ADPr and canonical histone marks (Cell Reports 2018). Currently, we are capitalizing on our lead and combining a newly established chemical biology-based technology with state-of-the-art proteomics, biochemistry, molecular biology and microscopy technique to study elusive, but biologically and clinically important, forms of ADPr.

We seek an ambitious and talented scientist to join an enthusiastic, fast-paced and collaborative team in an outstanding scientific environment.

The position is available immediately.

Qualification profile

The applicant is required to hold a Ph.D. in biology, molecular biology, biochemistry or a related field, and have a strong track record of accomplishments and relevant experience demonstrated by first author publication(s) in high-profile journals. Candidates with a strong interest in PTMs and signaling and with a high level of competence in cell biology and/or biochemistry are encouraged to apply for this position. The working language is English; knowledge of the German language is not required.

We offer

The employment contract is based on contracts for the civil service (TVöD-Bund, Tarifvertrag für den öffentlichen Dienst) and will be time limited. The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals. Furthermore, the Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.

Send application to

Informal inquiries (but not applications) are welcome and should be sent to Dr. Ivan Matic imatic@age.mpg.de. For further information about the Institute see https://www.age.mpg.de/institute/goals/



Vollzeit, Festanstellung



Postdoc



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