

Looking for a motivated Master student to work in a very friendly team on the research project:

## **EFFECT OF AGE ON TELOMERE LENGTH AND BETWEEN-TISSUES COMPARISON IN THE GARDEN DORMOUSE (*ELIOMYS QUERCINUS*)**

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### **Project outlines:**

Telomere dynamics and the occurrence of tumours are intrinsically associated across different animal species including humans. To look at these associations in hibernators, various tissues from garden dormice (*Elomys quercinus*) -both males and females of different ages- were obtained at the Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology during the summer season (June 2022).

The goal of the project is (i) to determine a potential effect of age on telomere length -an indicator of ageing- across various tissues (including liver, brown adipose, heart, kidneys and buccal cells) and (ii) to relate the latter to the presence of tumours in garden dormice. Relative telomere length will be measured by quantitative PCR technique using DNA extracted from the different tissues, as routinely done at our laboratory.

*Duration of experiments & analyses: 6 months*

*Anticipated project start: flexible but not later than January 2023.*

**The applicant should have a good background in animal biology/physiology and the willingness to learn new techniques, e.g., genetic methods. Previous experience with lab practices and statistics using R software are required. If you are interested, please contact us as soon as possible by sending a CV via E-mail.**