

Open PhD positions

2 positions for doctoral candidates are available within the frame of the multidisciplinary independent research group ‘**PeptAIDes** – Peptide Therapeutics for Autoimmune and Inflammatory Diseases’ funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) (www.peptaides.com)



About the project. Today’s drug research is increasingly interested in bioactive peptides as a potential starting point for the development of innovative therapies. Many bioactive peptides have great promise for drugs, but the majority of peptidic candidates never make it to the clinics because of the translational challenges of transforming a lead into a clinical candidate. Our mission is to create a research platform and to develop and test peptide therapeutic leads for the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases in a closely-connected interdisciplinary team.

The research area of the PhD thesis. PeptAIDes is looking for **2 highly motivated** students to join the research team. The candidates will focus to study the **therapeutic efficacy and immunological response** of the peptides in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and models mimicking multiple sclerosis (EAE). Amongst other methods, the candidate will work with primary cells and established cell lines, will be trained in flow cytometry and animal work, establish disease models and test peptide candidates in *in vitro* assays and *in vivo* mouse models.

Requirements. The successful candidate should hold a Master/Diploma’s degree in Biology, Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, Biomedicine or a related subject and has experience with sterile cell culture work.

Ideally, the applicant has practical experience in flow cytometry and animal mouse work. The applicant has to work on a multi-disciplinary project within a young motivated team of up to ten scientists from several institutions. Applicants should be highly motivated, proactive, self-organized and reliable. Excellent oral as well as written communication skills (English min. level C1) are needed.

What we offer. The research groups are located at top-level research institutions at the Medical University of Vienna, the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna and the University of Vienna. The candidates will be enrolled and trained in thematic PhD programs, work as scientific staff in the PeptAIDes project and be embedded in a large research environment with regular research seminars, journal clubs and other training opportunities. The institutes guarantee high-level scientific environments in which the PhD candidates will develop to independent scientists.

We offer remuneration in accordance with collective bargaining agreement: §48 VwGr. B1 Grundstufe (praedoc) (max. 30h/week) with relevant work experience determining the assignment to a particular salary grade.

Applicants shall send a curriculum vitae, contact details of at least two referees as well as a documentation of previous studies and university degrees and a short **motivation letter** with their research preference:

- 1) Peptide therapeutics in fatty liver disease and related lipid disorders (PI Tim Hendrikx) or
- 2) Studying immune system modulating peptides in multiple sclerosis and IBD (PI Dagmar Gotthardt) to dagmar.gotthardt@gmx.at and tim.hendrikx@meduniwien.ac.at no later **than 15th April 2021**.