

POST-DOC Fellowships at GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Biologicals, a worldwide leader in vaccine development, is committed to innovation especially in the field of adjuvant science and human immunology. In this context, GSK Biologicals intends to initiate post-doctoral fellowships (2 years) at its Research Department of Fundamental Immunology in Rixensart, Belgium.

The goal of this program is to investigate the mode of action of adjuvants, to design innovative approach to target antigen and to develop predictive in vitro human models that recapitulate the human response to adjuvanted vaccines. Biomarkers of vaccine efficacy and safety are also in the scope of the program.

Specifically, 3 areas of research are considered:

- 1. IMMUNE AND STRESS SENSORS INVOLVED IN THE INDUCTION OF IMMUNE RESPONSES BY ADJUVANTS (Project Leader A. Didierlaurent)**
The aim of this project is to better define the determinants of the innate pathways induced by immunostimulants that are crucial for their adjuvant properties. [Ref. GSK_Innate-Sensor_09]
- 2. IMPROVING VACCINE FORMULATION THROUGH ANTIGEN TARGETING TO RELEVANT IMMUNE CELLS INCLUDING DCs (Project Leader A. Elouahabi)**
Different vectorization strategies should be tested including conjugation of antigens to specific ligands and/or using antigen delivery vehicles such as functionalized nanoparticles and microparticles. [Ref. GSK_Ag-Del_09]
- 3. DEVELOPMENT OF IN VITRO HUMAN MODELS PREDICTING IN VIVO RESPONSES IN HUMANS (Project Leader R. Van Der Most)**
This project aims to develop in vitro models that can recapitulate innate and adaptive responses to vaccines. [Ref. GSK_PredImmune_09]

Applicants should hold a PhD in immunology, biochemistry, biophysics (Project Ref GSK_Ag-Del_09) or any related field (e.g. innate immunity, vaccinology, adjuvant technology). Technical expertise with flow cytometry, confocal microscopy, signalling, and cell culture would be appreciated.

The program will be funded by GSK Biologicals in collaboration with the Government of Wallonia or by grants of the European Marie-Curie program. Post-doc fellowships could start as soon as September 2009.

Candidates are invited to send their CV, a cover letter explaining their motivation and the project reference by e-mail to maryline.bauthier@gskbio.com by May 30, 2009. Interviews and selection of candidates will be made by June 30 at the latest.

All questions regarding the eligibility and the administrative context of the fellowships can be sent to francoise.javaux@gskbio.com