

# Postdoc position in Immunology

*Postdoc position in Immunology at the Department of Biomedicine, Aarhus University, Denmark*

A fully funded 2-year postdoctoral position is available from November 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, in *The Laboratory for Lymphocyte Biology*, Department of Biomedicine, Aarhus University, Denmark.

We seek a highly motivated postdoctoral candidate to study maternofetal immune influences in autoimmune mouse models, with a focus on downstream neurodevelopmental consequences.

## **The group**

The group was recently established at the Department of Biomedicine, with the aim to explore basic functions of lymphocytes in health and disease. We combine molecular biology approaches, advanced two-photon and confocal microscopy techniques, flow cytometry, cell sorting, and in vivo analyses to investigate basic questions in immunology, at the intersection of autoimmunity and neurobiology. *The Laboratory for Lymphocyte Biology* is led by assistant professor, Dr. Søren E. Degn. The group recently received a major 5-year grant for the project related to the open position, ensuring ample project funding.

## **The project**

Our basic investigations into autoimmunity extend to recently established links between maternal health, neuroinflammation and neuropsychiatric disorders. A significant fraction of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patients experience neuropsychiatric symptoms, encompassing anxiety, depression, cognitive impairment, seizures and, in rare cases, psychosis. Children of lupus mothers often display learning disorders and have an increased risk of autism spectrum disorders. Emerging evidence suggests an important link between maternal immune activation and abnormal brain development. The project will explore the mechanisms behind such maternofetal immune influences in the context of autoimmune diseases through investigations in autoimmune mouse models. The appointment is for two years with the possibility for further extension.

## **Qualifications**

- We are looking for a highly motivated, self-driven candidate with a solid background in immunology, neurobiology, neuroimmunology, or equivalent.
- Experience with confocal imaging, two-photon microscopy, flow cytometry, cell sorting, mouse models of autoimmunity or behavioral analyses, is highly desired.
- The successful candidate is expected to have strong skills in English, and to have a demonstrated scientific track record, including at least one first author publication in an international scientific journal within a relevant field.

## **Place of employment and place of work**

The place of employment is Aarhus University, Department of Biomedicine, and the place of work is *The Laboratory for Lymphocyte Biology*, Bartholins Allé 6, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark.

The Department of Biomedicine is a powerhouse in biomedical research located on the main campus of Aarhus University. The Department hosts approximately 350 employees and has state-of-the-art research facilities. These include an in-house animal facility, a flow cytometry and cell sorting core facility (housing

two FACSAria III sorters, one w. 3 lasers/12 detectors and one w. 4 lasers/14 detectors, an LSRFortessa w. 4 lasers/18 detectors, a NovoCyte analyzer w. 3 lasers and 15 detectors, and an ImageStreamX MarkII, w. 5 lasers/12 channels), several confocal microscopes, and BL3 laboratory space. We furthermore have a Prairie Instruments two-photon microscope, an IVIS Spectrum imaging platform, a behavioral phenotyping core, and a number of additional core facilities and instrumentation of relevance to the proposed project.

*The Laboratory for Lymphocyte Biology* is a newly established research group offering a well-funded, young and dynamic research environment with an international atmosphere. Core funding is provided by Aarhus University, by a major 5-year project grant from an independent foundation, and is supplemented by grants from other national and international agencies. See also <http://degnlab.au.dk>.

Aarhus is the European Capital of Culture 2017, and is a city offering an outstanding scientific and cultural environment. Denmark is regularly voted the world's happiest country.

### **Salary and terms of employment**

Salary, pension and terms of employment will be in accordance with the agreement between the Ministry of Finance and The Academics Central organization. Currently, the monthly salary is around 32,500-34,000 DKK (around 4,300-4,500 €) depending on salary seniority plus 17.1% in pension contribution.

If you are a non-Danish national and you fulfill a set of additional criteria, you may be eligible for a remunerative Researcher Taxation status. Furthermore, the Danish Ministry of Finance and the Danish Confederation of Professional Associations (AC) have agreed on a protocol that makes it possible for all international researchers employed by the University to achieve a pension exemption, where the pension contribution will instead be paid out monthly as a salary supplement. For more information about taxation and the different pension schemes, please refer to <http://ias.au.dk/prearrival/>.

### **Further information**

Applicants seeking further information are invited to contact: Group Leader, Assistant Professor, Dr. Søren E. Degn. Phone: +45 2214 1703. E-mail: [sdegn@biomed.au.dk](mailto:sdegn@biomed.au.dk).

### **Required qualifications**

Appointment as a postdoc requires academic qualifications at PhD level. Applicants for this position must hold a PhD degree, or have submitted their PhD thesis for assessment before the application deadline.

### **Formalities and references**

- Further information on the appointment procedure can be found in the [Ministerial Order on the Appointment of Academic Staff at Universities](#).
- The appointment is in accordance with the [Danish Confederation of Professional Associations](#) (Akademikerne).
- Remuneration is in accordance with the above, and the [Salary agreement catalogue for staff at Health](#).
- Further information on qualification requirements and job description can be found in the [Memorandum on Job Structure for Academic Staff at Danish Universities](#) (in Danish).

## **Application**

Applications must be accompanied by a CV, diploma, a list of publications, a research plan as well as a teaching portfolio. A maximum of ten of the publications of greatest relevance to the job must be submitted.

Further information on the application and supplementary materials may be found in the faculty's [Guidelines for applicants](#) and Aarhus University's [Guidelines on the use of teaching portfolios](#).

The assessment committee may decide to include non-submitted material in its assessment. In such cases, the applicant will be informed and obliged to submit material, unless the application is withdrawn.

Applications submitted through channels other than the online application form below or applications which are not received by the application deadline will not be considered.

All interested candidates are encouraged to apply, regardless of their personal background.

## **Application deadline**

All applications have to be made online and received no later than 04.10.2017.

Link to application via: <http://www.au.dk/om/stillinger/videnskabelige-stillinger/stillinger/Vacancy/show/928680/5285/>