The Institute of Virology of the Department of Veterinary Medicine at the Freie Universität Berlin (Head: Prof. Dr. Benedikt Kaufer) has an immediate vacancy for a PhD position (TVL-13, 65%). The position is part of the DFG research group ImmunoChick (FOR5130) “Unravelling the avian immune response in the context of infection”. In this project, the new researcher will

i) determine the role of γδ T cells in Marek’s disease virus (MDV) infection,
ii) investigate whether these cells are important for vaccine protection, and

iii) decipher whether αβ T cells are essential for MDV pathogenesis. To achieve these goals, we will use novel αβ and γδ T cell knockout chickens as well as molecular and immunological methods. The experiments will not only contribute to our understanding of the role of these T cell populations in MDV pathogenesis and vaccine protection, but will also increase the knowledge on the life cycle of this highly oncogenic virus.

Doctoral Student (Praedoc) (m/f/d)

City: Berlin; Starting Date: At the earliest possible; Duration: limited to 4 years; Renumeration: Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L FU; Reference number: WE05/DFG-FOR5130-E; Closing date: 27/09/21

Working field
The candidate will perform state-of-the-art research on the role of T cell populations in Marek's Disease Virus (MDV) pathogenesis in the context of the DFG research group ImmunoChick (FOR5130). In the project, the Praedoc is also involved in the planning, execution and evaluation of the scientific experiments, and report writing. Furthermore, the scientific results will be disseminated, presented and published.

Requirements
completed university degree in the natural sciences (diploma/master's degree) or degree in veterinary medicine (veterinary license).

**Desirable:**
- above-average grades and interest in independent, scientific work
- experience in handling cell cultures and virological assays
- experience with animal experiments including chickens (ideally with FELASA Cat. B course or equivalent)
- good communication skills
- team player who is able to formulate clear scientific hypotheses and collaborate effectively with other DFG Research Group partners
- good command of written and spoken English
- german language skills are an advantage.
Application

Applications should be sent by e-mail, together with significant documents, indicating the **reference code**, in PDF format (preferably as one document) **no later than September 27th**, 2021 to Prof. Dr. Benedikt Kaufer: b.kaufer@fu-berlin.de.

On the given occasion and for the duration of the essential on-site operations by Freie Universität Berlin, we kindly ask you to apply electronically by e-mail. The processing of a postal application cannot be guaranteed.

Freie Universität Berlin
Fachbereich Veterinärmedizin
Institut für Virologie
Mr. Prof. Dr. Benedikt Kaufer
Robert von Ostertag-Str. 7-13
Haus 35, 14163 Berlin (Düppel)

With an electronic application, you acknowledge that FU Berlin saves and processes your data. FU Berlin cannot guarantee the security of your personal data if you send your application over an unencrypted connection.

Freie Universität Berlin is an equal opportunity employer.

More information at https://stellenticket.de/106065/BUA/
Offer visible until 27/09/21