

Job advertisement no. 091/2024

The working group COPS led by Prof. Dr. Ursula Bilitewski at the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI), is offering the position of a

Biologist / Biotechnologist (f/m/d)

As a member of the Helmholtz Association, the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research, based in Braunschweig, conducts top-level research in the field of infectious diseases. Our scientists develop novel methods and strategies to fight infectious diseases faster and more effectively. Our common goal is to develop novel approaches for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases. Our research focuses on bacterial and viral pathogens, their interaction with the human immune system and new effective substances and vaccines.

The working group COPS is part of the Department Chemical Biology (CBIO), led by Prof. Mark Brönstrup. Our research is focused on the discovery and characterization of the biological activities of small molecules. We are particularly interested in compounds, which inactivate bacterial virulence factors, or show antibacterial or antiviral properties. In addition we support screening campaigns of cooperation partners by providing screening compounds in assay-ready microtiter plates and / or perform screening campaigns on our robotic systems. Identified active compounds are further developed by comprehensive profiling, e.g. with respect to cytotoxic properties and applicability in cell-culture – based infection models. To better mimic physiological conditions it is planned to establish suitable infection models also on the basis of air-liquid-interface cultures.

Responsibilities:

- Maintenance of human cell cultures, particularly lung epithelial cells, keratinocytes, immune cells
- Establishment of protocols leading to air – liquid – interface cultures
- Establishment and characterization of cell – culture – based infection models
- Evaluation of cytotoxic properties of compounds, supernatants, extracts
- Lab management
- Initial training of students

Requirements:

- Completed studies in biology / biotechnology or similar disciplines (B.Sc. or M.Sc.)
- Practical experience in cell culture techniques, preferably in human cell cultures
- Practical experience in some biochemical analytical methods, such as Gel electrophoresis, Western Blots, qRT-PCR, flow cytometry, fluorescence microscopy
- Good skills at least in spoken English
- Experience in comprehensive documentation of protocols and results
- Good skills in MS Excel and Word, ideally also in GraphPad Prism
- Independent working, reliable and team player
- Willingness to work in an international and multidisciplinary team

Advantageous for this position:

- Practical experience in microbiological cultivations of S2-organisms
- Practical experience with assays performed in microtiter plates (96 and 384 well plates)
- Experience with automated systems, e.g. (semi-)automated liquid handlers
- Chemical knowledge
- Experience with data management

We offer you:

- An attractive and varied job in a future-oriented research institute with an international environment at the Science Campus South in Braunschweig
- A state-of-the-art infrastructure and the latest technologies
- Flexible working hours and part-time models
- A corporate culture of appreciation and promotion of equal opportunities
- Extensive training and continuing education opportunities to develop professional knowledge and personal skills
- A family office to support family and career as well as childcare offers
- Interesting additional public service benefits
- Possible subsidy of the job-ticket

People with severe disabilities and equivalent professional qualifications who are suitable for the position are given preference. In order to protect your rights, we ask you to provide us with a clearly recognizable reference to the existence of a degree of severe disability in your cover letter or resume.

The HZI is actively committed to equality, diversity and integration. For this reason, the HZI pursues the goal of professional equality between women and men. The position is suitable for part-time work.

Starting date:	As soon as possible. The contract will initially run for 12 months.
Salary:	E 10 TVöD Bund
Working time:	39 hours per week
Place of work:	Braunschweig
Probation period:	6 months
Published:	07.06.2024
Closing date:	30.06.2024

For further information please contact Prof. Ursula Bilitewski, phone 0531 6181 1010, email: ursula.bilitewski@helmholtz-hzi.de.

How to apply:

When sending us your application documents, **please confirm** that you have read our privacy policy and that you agree to the processing of your personal data. Please use the text module in our [privacy policy](#) for this purpose. **Without these declarations we cannot consider or process your application** and will immediately delete any application documents already received after the application deadline.

Please include a cover letter, CV, (employment) references, certificates, and (if available) information on reference projects with your application materials. Please refrain from sending a photo.

Please send your complete application, quoting the **reference number 091/2024**, to the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research GmbH, Human Resources Department, Inhoffenstr. 7, 38124 Braunschweig, Germany or by [e-mail](#). If you send your application in electronic form, please provide a **summary in one single (1) pdf document**.

We look forward to receiving your application!