Leibniz Institute for Immunotherapy
Cells built to cure

The LIT - Leibniz Institute for Immunotherapy (foundation under civil law) (https://lit.eu) – is a biomedical research center focusing on translational immunology in the fields of cancer immunotherapy, transplant rejection and autoimmunity. The objective of the LIT is to develop innovative and efficient cellular immune therapeutics in these areas. Our own GMP laboratories and close networking with University and University Hospital offer excellent opportunities for clinical translation of novel immune cell products.

The Group "**Epigenetic Immunooncology**" at the LIT is recruiting a

PhD position (m/f/d) - CS-2026-2

in part-time position (65 %), starting as soon as possible. This position is initially limited to three years, with the possibility of extension.

The Schmidl lab works at the interface of immunology and cancer, which is one of the most exciting fields of recent biomedical research. We provide a dynamic and motivating working environment with flat hierarchies where you can foster your skills and get the opportunity to use top-notch technologies. The small lab size offers excellent mentoring and training opportunities.

About the project
In this project, you will investigate gene-regulatory mechanisms in cancer cells that lead to metastatic colonization. The project offers an opportunity to focus on cutting-edge research topics, including how the tumor microenvironment (TME) supports cancer cell survival, immune evasion, and proliferation. Metabolic studies will be a major component of this work, with an emphasis on uncovering how TME-associated metabolic changes regulate gene expression through protein post-translation modifications (PTMs), with a specific focus on Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition (EMT).

Your Tasks

- Further developing and applying next-generation-sequencing approaches to study gene regulation
- Build on existing expertise to use and further develop CRISPR (epi-)genome editing
- Using biochemistry approaches to study protein function
- Study metabolism and protein posttranslational modifications in cancer cells and immune cells
- Use model systems to study the functional consequences of altered gene regulation, metabolisms in cancer

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Our Requirements

We are looking for a highly motivated individual who is enthusiastic to work in a young and ambitious team on a competitive project, and who fits the following profile:

- Strong interest in molecular biology, cancer, and immunology
- Master's in biology/biochemistry/molecular medicine or related fields
- Creative mind that is eager to shape the project and who wants to make an impact on immunological and biomedical research
- Experimental training in molecular biology and biochemistry
- Keen interest in using modern technology
- Excellent oral and written English communication skills and team spirit
- Experience in next generation sequencing, mouse models (FELASA certificate), CRISPR methods, and metabolic assays are advantageous but not absolutely required

We offer:

- A varied and exciting role in an innovative research environment
- A dynamic and dedicated team committed to the future of cell therapies
- Comprehensive training on state-of-the-art methods
- Flat hierarchies and short decision-making processes
- Excellent opportunities for professional and personal development
- Flexible working hours to help balance family and career
- Company pension scheme (VBL)
- Annual special payment
- Capital-forming benefits
- Job ticket, and more

Remuneration is in accordance with TV-L.

The LIT places particular emphasis on promoting a healthy work-life balance.

Applicants with severe disabilities (m/f/d) will be given preference in the event of essentially equal suitability. Please indicate any disability in your application.

Please note that expenses that may arise in the context of an eventual job interview cannot be reimbursed.

For more information, please contact Dr. Christian Schmidl (christian.schmidl@lit.eu). We are looking forward to receiving your detailed application. Please apply via our Online - Application Portal quoting the reference **CS-2026-2.**
Application **deadline is 01st March 2026.**

TOTAL E-QUALITY