

Postdoctoral position in medicinal chemistry

In order to strengthen its team, the laboratory of Pr Vladimir Katanaev from the department of cell physiology and metabolism at the faculty of medicine is looking for full-time postdoctoral researcher. The position will be for one year, starting the 1st of February 2021.

The research of the laboratory, located at the CMU, is focused on the Wnt signaling pathway which is an attractive and emerging drug target for triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) and important cancers (colon, stomach, HCC) but blunt inhibition results in unacceptable adverse events in bone and intestine.

Our group has identified a key receptor within the Wnt pathway as the solution to reduce tumor growth without adverse events. Translational research and high throughput screening executed in our laboratory succeeded in the identification of an innovative, effective and safe small-molecule scaffold which has been protected by a patent WO 2019/166616 A1. This chemical series has the potential to provide a novel therapeutic option for TNBC patients without adverse effect. We are currently engaged in a small molecule drug discovery program to improve potency, selectivity and pharmacokinetics parameters through iterative design and multi-parameters optimization.

The position

We are looking for a motivated candidate with a PhD in Organic Chemistry or Medicinal Chemistry. For a drug discovery program, the candidate will synthesize novel compounds for testing in in vitro and in vivo assays. He/She is expected to show high-capacity to accurately plan, perform and analyse research experiments combining personal knowledge with literature searching to identify appropriate synthetic routes. The candidate will use state of the art procedure to purify and characterized by NMR and LCMS the compounds prepared.

He/she is expected to work in a collaborative manner within a multidisciplinary team composed by chemists and biologists. He/She will apply the standards of good laboratory practices. He/She should show good communication and writing skills in order to present results to the group and scientific community.

The position is located at the CMU at the University of Geneva with state-of- the-art laboratories and equipment. Geneva is an international city occupying a privileged geographical situation with its beautiful lake and the close-by Alps.

For any information with regard to this position, please contact cedric.boudou@unige.ch

Applications should be sent by email to cedric.boudou@unige.ch and should include

- a cover/motivation letter
- a Curriculum Vitae including publications and scientific achievements

Expected qualification

- PhD in organic chemistry or medicinal chemistry
- Strong skills and a proven track record in synthetic organic chemistry, compound purification, and characterization (LC/MS and NMR)
- Good Knowledge and experience in heterocyclic chemistry, retrosynthesis, multistep synthesis
- Preferably with additional drug discovery experience with structure activity relationship analysis, multiparameters optimization
- Enjoy working in a multidisciplinary team
- Experience in using scientific database (SciFinder), Microsoft Office and Chemdraw
- With a good level in English
- Excellent communication and presentation skills

Laboratory	Pr. Vladimir Katanaev University of Medicine - Department of cell physiology and metabolism
Contact person – Supervisor	Cédric Boudou (Maître-assistant – Medicinal Chemist)
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