

Post-doctoral position: Procollagen C-proteinase enhancers as therapeutic targets in cardiac fibrosis

Project: Cardiac fibrosis is the common consequence of several cardiovascular disorders, often leading to heart failure and death. Collagens are the main constituents of fibrotic tissues but there is presently no efficient therapy to limit their accumulation. Based on recent literature and on our previous work, procollagen C-proteinase enhancers (PCPEs), which can speed up collagen proteolytic maturation in a very efficient and specific manner, represent promising targets in cardiac fibrosis. In order to confirm this hypothesis and evaluate the impact of PCPE pharmacological inhibition, we have developed the first antagonists of PCPE activity which display very good potency *in vitro*. They will now be used to better describe PCPE functions in heart cells and assayed *in vivo* to evaluate their potential as diagnostic and therapeutic tools in an animal model of cardiac fibrosis. The project will be conducted in close collaboration with 3 other partners (Dijon University Hospital, NVH Medicinal and CGFL preclinical imaging platform).

Fellowship: funded by the CardiActiV ANR for 2 years, it will start beginning of 2018. Salary will depend on previous experience.

Host Institution: the LBTI (Tissue Biology and Therapeutic Engineering Laboratory - lbt.iibcp.fr) is a young and dynamic research laboratory located in the heart of Lyon Biodistrict (>5000 people working in life sciences and biomedical research). It offers top-level equipment in biology and a very stimulating scientific environment. Located in the South-East of France, Lyon is the second biggest scientific and economic center in the country and is internationally recognized for its quality of life.

Candidate: We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with good communication skills and capacity to work independently in a collaborative environment. The candidate will hold a PhD degree in life sciences, with a strong background in cell biology and in at least one of the following fields: heart physiopathology, extracellular matrix, proteolysis, proteomics. Experience in cell culture, cell and tissue imaging, quantitative PCR and biochemistry will also be needed.

Applicants should submit their complete application file (CV, cover letter, publication list and contacts for at least two references) by email before January 15, 2018.

Contact information:

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