



Job Offer: **Postdoc (50%) [f/m/d]**

The Center for Innovation Competence (ZIK) SEPTOMICS in Jena (www.septomics.de) is a cross-faculty research center, commonly supported by the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, the University Hospital Jena and the Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute. The ZIK Septomics is a central partner in infection and sepsis research in Jena and combines applied basic research and clinical research under one roof. The research focuses on the systems biology of systemic infections with the aim of developing new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. The newly established Junior Research Group Host Fungal Interfaces offers this position starting **March 1st, 2019 for 17 months**.

The project focuses on the role of host proteins on biofilm formation on patient-derived central venous catheters (CVCs). Successful candidates will investigate virulence traits of the opportunistic pathogenic yeast *Candida albicans* and the bacterial pathogen *Enterococcus faecalis*.

The Junior Research Group Host Fungal Interfaces performs state of the art research to investigate the pathogenesis of *C. albicans*, which is frequently associated with biofilm formation on host-associated abiotic surfaces, such as central venous catheters (CVC) and urinary catheters, leading to sepsis. Recent studies using *in vitro* and *in vivo* animal models suggest that host factors and contamination of the CVCs with skin-associated and other bacteria are important for *C. albicans* biofilm formation. In this pilot project part of the Center for Sepsis Control and Care we aim to identify host and/or bacterial factors that foster biofilm formation on patient-derived CVCs.

Your profile: We are seeking for a highly motivated and technically skilled postdoctoral candidate with a scientific background in biology, biochemistry, microbiology or related fields working independently and pushing the experimental process. Experiences in fungal biology or bacteriology are preferable, but not required.

For further information please contact:

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Complete applications in English should include a CV, certificates, a brief statement of research experiences and interests, a complete list of publications, the addresses of two possible referees, and should be submitted as a single pdf-file until February 5th, 2019 to septomics@leibniz-hki.de referring to Reg. No. 09/2019.

Candidates are willing to perform translational research and for this good communication and interaction with our clinical partner is required. Furthermore, candidates will be expected to be involved in supervision of undergraduates and to pass on skills and knowledge to other team members. Very good communication skills in English are a prerequisite.

Jena University Hospital:

Being the largest employer in the region, our around 5,000 employees working in 26 departments and clinics provide ambulatory care for around 280,000 patients and inpatient treatment for more than 55,000 patients each year. In addition, 2,300 students of medicine and dentistry are trained, and in 25 institutes, scientists from more than 25 nations do research to advance medicine. Employees at Jena University Hospital can benefit from a wide range of offers that encourage individual health promotion at work.

We offer: The successful candidate will be hosted in the newly established independent Junior Research Group Host Fungal Interfaces. The ZIK Septomics is embedded in the outstanding scientific environment of the sepsis research location in Jena providing state-of-art research facilities and a highly integrative network of life science groups. We offer a multifaceted scientific project supported by excellent technical facilities, a place in an international, committed team, as well as strong scientific collaborations. The candidate will get the opportunity to receive a one-month training in a specific infectious mouse model at a collaborator in the U.S.

The position is a part-time work (50%), remunerated under state salary scheme TV-L E13 (salary agreement for public service employees) and limited to a term of 17 months. Severely disabled applicants with equal qualification and aptitude are given preferential consideration.