
Postdoctoral scholar position: Cancer biology/Immunology

NIBR

Site Basel

The Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR) is the innovation engine of Novartis. We collaborate across scientific and organizational boundaries, with a focus on powerful new technologies that have the potential to help produce therapeutic breakthroughs for patients.

A postdoctoral position is available in the laboratory of Dr. Carlotta Costa with the collaboration of co-mentor Dr. Matthew Niederst, within the Oncology department of NIBR in Basel, Switzerland. Our laboratories are interested in dissecting the molecular mechanisms of resistance to immune therapies. Indeed, while immune checkpoint inhibitors have revolutionized the treatment of specific cancer types, often in combination with chemotherapy or targeted therapies, a large fraction of patients still does not experience complete responses, indicating that a subset of their cancer cells are refractory to these treatments. The overall goal of the project will be identify and characterize the fraction of cells that are resistant to T cell mediated killing and explore the mechanisms underlying the efficacy of PD1-based combinations. The lab offers a unique opportunity to combine orthogonal approaches, such as genomic and pharmacological screens, scRNAseq, and proteomics to comprehensively characterize these cell populations as well as probe for vulnerabilities. Importantly, understanding these survival mechanism(s) might inform the design of future therapeutic strategies for targeting this cell population to produce deeper and longer lasting patient responses.

The successful candidate will join a vibrant scientific community and collaborate with other postdoctoral fellows mentored by a range of scientists across disciplines and platforms, including chemistry, structural biology, molecular biology, functional genomics, neurophysiology and translational medicine. Postdoctoral scholars at NIBR have a unique opportunity to conduct innovative, interdisciplinary research and are expected to publish their results in leading journals. The postdoctoral term is up to 4 years.

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate that excels at independence and creative thinking.

Qualifications:

- ❖ PhD in Cancer Biology or Immunology
- ❖ Strong publication record
- ❖ Excellent analytical, communication and organizational skills
- ❖ Candidates must be able to work independently as well as with interdisciplinary teams
- ❖ Experience working with murine models is advantageous but not required

If interested please submit your CV and cover letter to carlotta.costa@novartis.com and matt.niederst@novartis.com

For more information about our postdoctoral program, please visit <https://www.novartis.com/our-science/postdoc-program>

We are Novartis. Join us and help us reimagine medicine

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