

## Job posting

### Type of position

  

scientific  
administrative

### Target group

  
  

graduates  
post docs  
other

### Title

Postdoctoral Researcher (f/m/d) - for drug research against viruses of the respiratory tract (Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Coronaviruses)

### Institution

The Institute for Experimental Virology, led by Prof. Dr. Thomas Pietschmann, at TWINCORE - Center for Experimental and Clinical Infection Research in Hanover, is seeking a Postdoctoral Researcher (f/m/d) - for drug research against viruses of the respiratory tract (Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Coronaviruses) to support our international and interdisciplinary team.

At TWINCORE medical personnel and basic research scientists from various disciplines conduct infection research side by side. Our focus is upon translational research the interface between basic research and clinical development.

The respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and Coronaviruses can cause severe an even lethal respiratory infections. Treatment options are limited and novel antiviral strategies are urgently needed.

Accessing proprietary drug libraries of the Helmholtz Association, the Hannover Medical School and the most comprehensive drug repurposing library ReFRAME of the Scripps institute, we have identified several candidates with antiviral activity to SARS-CoV-2 and RSV, respectively. The candidate will be involved in the analysis of the mode of action, drug resistance and target identification of selected candidates. He/she will use human primary cell culture and animal models to validate candidates, to provide proof of concept of in vivo efficacy, and to prioritize molecules for onward development. In cooperation with experts in medical chemistry and structural biology, hit to lead series will be generated to improve drug-like properties of primary candidates.

### Position

- Responsibilities**
- Virological profiling of compounds in cell cultures up to analysis in primary cell lines.
  - Validation of biological target.
  - Molecular characterization of the mode of action and mechanisms of resistance.
  - Development of phenotypic assays for compound optimization.

- Requirements**
- PhD and Master's degree in life sciences (Virology, immunology, cell biology, biochemistry).
  - Strong hands on experience in laboratory techniques and molecular methods.
  - General understanding of the biochemical interactions involved in host-pathogen interplay.
  - Ability to pay attention to detail, pursue research independently and work in a goal-oriented manner.
  - Willingness to work in a plural, collegial, international and interdisciplinary environment.
  - Fluency in English language (written and spoken)

Advantageous for this position (contingent position):

- Previous experience in the field of RNA virology.
- Previous experience in working in S3 laboratory
- Experience with cell culture and cultivation of primary cell lines.
- Expertise in next generation sequencing techniques

We offer you:

- Challenging and varied tasks in a dynamic, diverse, collegial and international research environment
- Modern workplace equipment
- Additional services of the public service
- Extensive further training opportunities
- Flexible working hours and workplace design
- Support for a better balance between work and private life through our family office

People with severe disabilities and equivalent professional qualifications who are suitable for the position are given preference. In order to protect your rights, we ask you to provide us with a clearly recognizable reference to the existence of a degree of severe disability in your cover letter or resume. The HZI strives for professional equality between women and men.

The position is suitable for part-time work and will be realized within the scope of the possibilities of the service.

Starting date: 01.01.2022

Contract duration: of extension	2.5 years contract with the possibility
Salary:	E13 TVöD Bund
Working time:	39 hours per week
Place of work:	TWINCORE – Hannover
Probation period:	6 months
Closing date:	11.11.2021

**Application  
procedure  
(deadline etc.)**

When sending us your application documents, please confirm that you have read our privacy policy and that you agree to the processing of your personal data. Please use the text module in our privacy policy for this purpose.

Without these declarations we cannot consider or process your application and after the application deadline we will immediately delete any application documents without the declarations.

Please send your complete application (cover letter, curriculum vitae and list of references), quoting the reference number 143/2021, to the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research GmbH, Human Resources Department, Inhoffenstr. 7, 38124 Braunschweig, Germany or by e-mail to [JobsHZI@helmholtz-hzi.de](mailto:JobsHZI@helmholtz-hzi.de). If you send your application in electronic form, please send the documents in one single (1) pdf document.

**Contact**

For further information please contact Prof. Thomas Pietschmann, phone 0511 220027 130, email: [Thomas.Pietschmann@twincore.de](mailto:Thomas.Pietschmann@twincore.de).