**10 FULLY FUNDED PhD POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE DOCTORAL NETWORK “FUTURE OF ALCL: NOVEL THERAPIES, ORIGINS, BIO-MARKERS AND MECHANISM OF RESISTANCE”**

The FANTOM Doctoral Network (DN) is comprised of 7 beneficiaries and 12 associated partners in 5 EU countries, recruiting 10 doctoral candidates and will be embedded into an established international research programme: The European Research Initiative on Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase (ALK)-related malignancies (ERIA) and a clinical network: The European Intergroup for Childhood Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (EICNHL).

The primary goal of the network is to train the recruited fellows by participation in this internationally competitive research programme and address the clinical problems posed by Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma (ALCL) typified by aberrant ALK expression.

The research and training activities will include not only academic labs but also key research institutes, biotechnology companies, clinical trial bodies and Pharma to reach our research goals.

**The following PhD projects are available**

1. Investigating the role of the T cell receptor (TCR) in ALCL pathogenesis towards the development of an innovative therapeutic approach

Host: Masaryk University Brno

1. Epigenetics of ALCL Drug Resistance

Host: Medizinische Universität Wien

1. The role of STAT1 activation and immunity in ALCL oncogenesis

Host: Medizinische Universität Wien

1. Investigating the role of STAT5 in ALCL pathogenesis

Host: Medizinische Universität Wien

1. Targeting CCR7-PI3Kg axis to eradicate persistent lymphoma cells in ALK+ ALCL

Host: Università di Torino

1. Integration of clonal evolution and single-cell mutational and expression profiles in ALK+ ALCL

Host: Università degli studi di Milano – BICOCCA

1. Establishment of ALK-autoantibodies, T cell responses against ALK and cell-free DNA as biomarkers and for response monitoring of patients with ALCL

Host: Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf

1. Identification of new biomarkers of disease resistance in ALCL of childhood: the role of exosomes.

Host: Università degli studi di Padova

1. Development of a TME-based Immunoscore as a prognostic and predictive biomarker for ALCL

Host: Klinikum rechts der Isar der Technischen Universität München

1. Validation of bypass mechanisms of resistance to ALK TKIs in ALCL

Host: Masaryk University Brno

For project details and also details of the recruitment process go to the FANTOM webpage (<https://fantom-project.eu/>). **Projects are 36 months in duration.**

**How to apply?**

**Apply here:** [**https://fantom-project.eu/future-member/**](https://fantom-project.eu/future-member/)

* The application process is described on our recruitment page (https://fantom-project.eu/future-member/)
* Initial application deadline: 30.05.2023
* Candidates will be enrolled between 01.07.2023 and 30.11.2023

**Contacts**

In case of any inquiries about open positions and recruitment, please contact us via this email: blazkova@med.muni.cz. Further information about FANTOM, our scientific goals, and all participants can be found on our website: <https://fantom-project.eu/>

**Co-ordinator:** Prof Suzanne Turner ([suzanne.dawn.turner@med.muni.cz](mailto:suzanne.dawn.turner@med.muni.cz)) and Prof Sarka Pospisilova ([Sarka.pospisilova@rect.muni.cz](mailto:Sarka.pospisilova@rect.muni.cz))

**Project Manager:** Ms Jitka Blazkova (blazkova@med.muni.cz)

**Skills/Qualifications**

* International applicants with a strong interest in the scientific goals of FANTOM (can be clinically qualified).
* Applicants should hold a MSc or equivalent degree in a biological/medical subject. A background in oncology/cancer research would be advantageous

**Specific Requirements**

For more specific requirements please go to websites of DC projects: <https://fantom-project.eu/research-projects/>

**Languages: ENGLISH**

**Benefits**

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network Program offers a highly competitive and attractive salary and working conditions. Each fellowship includes the following:

* All PhD fellows will be enrolled in PhD doctoral programs and tuition fees are free of charge during the contracted period of 36 months
* The host organisation will appoint the candidate under an employment contract
* Cutting-edge science in an international collaboration in CZ/AT/IT/GE.
* The post holders will benefit from secondments in academia and industry, training and transferable-skills courses and active participation in workshops and conferences
* Generous remittance:
  + Living allowance of €3,400/month gross (country correction coefficient applies). Note that this amount is subject to local taxes, social security deductions, etc.
  + Mobility allowance of €600/month gross to cover personal household, relocation and travel expense
  + Family allowance of €660/month gross, if applicable. Employer costs and other deductions depend on the recruiting organisation.

**Eligibility criteria**

* Degree: Applicants must be doctoral candidates, i.e., not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of recruitment.
* Mobility rule: Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity (e.g., work, studies) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date. Exceptions apply. This rule may mean that you cannot apply for some projects.
* Further eligibility requirements and the selection process are described on our recruitment page.

**Additional comments**

We expect that all doctoral projects will start by Dec 2023 at the latest.