

MASTER POSITION IN STEM CELL RESEARCH

The IMBA Institute of Molecular Biotechnology (IMBA) of the Austrian Academy of Science is an international research institute that focuses on cell and RNA biology, molecular medicine and stem cell research. Science carried out at IMBA is at the highest level and the institute has a great state-of-the-art infrastructure. IMBA is located at the Vienna Biocenter (VBC), very close to the city centre of Vienna.

We offer a master student position in Sasha Mendjan's laboratory starting as soon as possible, ideally still in 2020. The Mendjan group is interested in exploring mechanisms of human cardiac organogenesis and pathogenesis by using human pluripotent cells. Recently, the lab established self-organizing heart organoids called cardioids, which contain all three cardiac lineages and recapitulate the chamber-like structure of the heart (Hofbauer et. al., BioXchiv 2020). Cardioids are a powerful new tool to study how signaling and gene expression drive patterning and self-organization and how mutations cause human cardiac defects.

The thesis will focus on the establishment of cardioids representing a specific lineage and structures of the heart that are often affected by human birth malformations. Furthermore, the aim of this project is to study the interaction of different cell types within the heart and mimic specific defects of the human heart.

We can offer an exciting model system, amazing infrastructure, unique learning opportunities, great lab atmosphere, a focused and dedicated supervision, and an inspiring as well as very collaborative campus. For more information, please visit our lab page on the IMBA website.

We are looking for a highly motivated and friendly candidate, who is a good team player and is interested in carrying out a project for 9-12 month. The candidate should be interested in stem cells, development biology and molecular mechanisms. Previous lab experience and training in basic molecular biology techniques is a must and good English-language skills are essential.

Please send applications with a cover letter and CV to

Sasha Mendjan,
sasha.mendjan@imba.oeaw.ac.at.

Selected candidates will be invited for an interview in August and September.