

The group of **Jun. Prof. Dr. Franziska Faber** at the **Institute of Molecular Infection Biology**, University of Würzburg is offering a

PhD Student position (f/m/d)

“Functional characterization of the RNA-binding protein KhpB - mechanisms of RNA binding and the regulation of metabolism and virulence in *Clostridioides difficile*”

We are looking for a PhD student in the field of **Microbiology / Molecular Biology / RNA Biology / Computational Biology** to work on the **Functional characterization of the RNA-binding protein KhpB – its mechanisms of RNA binding and the regulation of metabolism and virulence in *Clostridioides difficile***. Our group is located at the Institute of Molecular Infection Biology (Jun. Prof. Dr. Franziska Faber) and associated with the Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI), which are both in Würzburg, Germany.

Research in our group focuses on post-transcriptional control mechanisms of determinants of pathogenicity in *Clostridioides difficile* (doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2103579118, doi.org/10.1093/femsml/uqab004, doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.17.512509). For further information on our research, please see our websites: <https://www.helmholtz-hiri.de/en/research/> or <http://www.imib-wuerzburg.de/research/faber/research/>

Successful candidates will:

- Apply state-of-the-art techniques to characterize Protein and RNA interactomes of KhpB
- Identify mechanisms and cellular functions of KhpB in *C. difficile*, with a focus on central metabolism and virulence regulation
- Characterize the impact of KhpB regulation during host-pathogen and microbe-pathogen interactions

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- M.Sc. in a life science field
- Research background in RNA biology, microbiology, molecular biology, biochemistry, genomics
- Strong written and spoken English language communication skills, high-self motivation and dedication to perform excellent research

We offer:

- An interdisciplinary and international research team
- open-minded and collaborative work environment with a strong focus on RNA and infection biology
- State-of-the-art infrastructure and cutting-edge technologies
- Diverse opportunities for further education, career development, and training at the JMU Würzburg

We welcome applications from all sections of the community regardless of race, gender, or disability. The University aims to increase the proportion of female employees. Thus, applications from qualified women are particularly welcome. Preference will be given to severely handicapped persons in case of otherwise equal aptitude. The position is available for an initial period of one year with the possibility of extension for another two years. Salary is based on the pay scale for the public sector (TV-L).

Please send your application (Subject: PhD Student position – Faber lab) including a letter of motivation, CV, publication list, copies of relevant documents and contact information of two academic references as a **single PDF-file** until **December 15th, 2022** via email to franziska.faber@uni-wuerzburg.de.