

PhD position in medicinal chemistry within AntiHelix, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie ITN network

Edelris is offering a PhD position in Lyon, France, to begin in February/March 2020, as part of the AntiHelix ITN network (ESR 12).¹

Project title:

Discovery of small molecule inhibitors of human BLM, RECQ1 and PIF1 DNA helicases

Project description:

Helicases are ubiquitous enzymes, acting as motor proteins to separate or remodel DNA or RNA duplexes. Given their essential tasks in living organisms, they are emerging as an important class of targets for antiviral, antibiotic and anti-cancer drugs. The AntiHelix project aims to obtain a detailed picture of the mechanism of action and the physiological role of a number of DNA helicases, and ultimately discover specific inhibitors of those enzymes as potential therapeutic drugs, especially for cancers.

The research project will consist on the designed and synthesis of new helicase inhibitors. The design will be based on structural information and known small molecule inhibitors, using molecular modeling techniques. Compound recruitment and/or chemical synthesis of most promising solutions will be followed by biological testing (both *in vitro* and in cell assays) and pharmacological profiling.

Benefits:

- 3-year full-time employment contract in accordance with the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action regulations for Early Stage Researchers
- Enrolment in a local PhD school
- Access to state-of-the-art research environment and facilities and supervision by recognized experts
- Participation in network-wide training activities, schools and conferences

¹ <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/450137>

- Joining an exciting multidisciplinary research programme that will enhance their career perspectives in both the academic and non-academic sector
- 3 Secondments at international partner labs of the ITN network (Denmark, UK and US based)

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Mobility rule:** Have not been resident or have conducted main activity (studies, work, etc.) for more than 12 months within the last three years in France.
- Be in the first four years of their research career (measured from the date they have obtained a degree that allows them to enrol in a PhD program)
- Be fluent in English

Application

Candidates are invited to send the following documents by **November 30th 2019**

- Motivation letter (max. two pages)
- CV including details of education/qualifications, work experience, language skills and other relevant skills
- At least two Scientists for reference letters
- Certified/signed copy of a recent transcript of exams taken with relative mark
- A certified/signed copy of MSc certificate or a letter from the Head of the degree course stating that the student is going to finish before the end of 2019.

All applications will be checked for eligibility (in particular, the adherence to the mobility rule). Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview. Candidates will be notified of the outcome.

Please send your documents to contact@edelris.com

Additional details on the Antihelix project can be found on the dedicated website.²

² <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/224674/factsheet/en>