Posdoctoral Position in the Medical University of Innsbruck

“Targeting Alpha-Synuclein for Treating Multiple System Atrophy”

A postdoctoral position is available in the lab of Prof. Wenning and Prof. Stefanova to test the therapeutic effect of active and passive immunization against alpha-synuclein (αSyn) in a mouse model for multiple system atrophy (MSA) using AFFITOPE/AFFITOME technology from AFFIRIS¹².

MSA is a relentlessly progressive atypical parkinsonian disorder leading to severe motor disability and death. Pathologically MSA is characterized by the abnormal accumulation of αSyn in glial cells in form of oligodendroglial cytoplasmic inclusions (GCIs)³. This pathological hallmark is recapitulated in the PLP-hαSyn transgenic mouse model, which over-express the human αSyn under the oligodendrocyte promoter PLP, leading to an accumulation of insoluble and phosphorylated αSyn, microglial activation, neurodegeneration, motor impairments and autonomic failure⁴⁵.

Prof. Wenning/Stefanova lab uses behavioral, histological and molecular approaches using the PLP-hαSyn mouse model to better understand the progression of MSA and as pre-clinical model for drug screening to test possible therapeutic interventions.

This postdoctoral position is funded by an E-rare grant from the European Commission within a project in collaboration with international partners (http://www.erare.eu/financed-projects/artemis).

For more information about the work of Wenning/Stefanova lab, visit https://www.i-med.ac.at/neurobiology/.

The Wenning/Stefanova lab in the Dept. of Neurology of the Medical University of Innsbruck (Austria) offers a unique research and training environment characterized by scientific collaboration, publications in recognized journals and a rich experience in translational research projects within a spectacular setting adjacent to the Alps.

Applicants should have a PhD (or equivalent degree) in neuroscience or another similar discipline. Experience with mice models (handling, behavior analysis, etc.), histology, stereology and molecular biology is strongly recommended.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, a current CV, a statement of research interests with relevance to Prof. Nadia Stefanova (nadia.stefanova@i-med.ac.at), and the names of three references.

References: