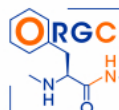

STML

**ORGANIC
CHEMISTRY
RESEARCH GROUP**

PhD Student

ERC Proof-of-Concept Funded project

Novel inhibitors for obesity-associated liver cancer

We offer a shared full-time position at the
Signal Transduction & Metabolism Laboratory
Université libre de Bruxelles &
Organic Chemistry Research Group Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Job description

The Signal Transduction and Metabolism Laboratory (www.stmlaboratory.com) led by Dr Esteban Gurzov and the Organic Chemistry Research Group led by Dr Steven Ballet (<https://orgc.research.vub.be/home>) are seeking highly motivated PhD students to develop and explore novel inhibitors for obesity-associated liver dysfunction and hepatocellular carcinoma. The successful applicant will be part of joint PhD project funded by the European Research Council Proof-of-Concept (PI Gurzov).

Project description:

The project will take advantage of in silico drug design, chemical synthesis, biochemistry assays, hepatic cancer cell models, bioinformatics and human liver specimens to identify novel molecules that can prevent/reverse mechanisms by which obesity drives the

development of hepatocellular carcinoma and explore novel therapeutics for combatting the disease.

The Joint PhD opportunity provides an international and world leading environment for creative science. We foster research excellence and pursue discoveries in metabolic diseases, with experts working together in collaborative teams. **Come and join us!**

- We believe in a strong scientific commitment and reproducible findings to contribute to the way of thinking in metabolic research.
- Our vision is to translate fundamental science to the clinic by a collaborative effort between scientists, physicians and the industry.

Profile

- ✓ **BCs and Master diploma in Bioengineering, (Pharmaceutical) Chemistry, Chemical Biology or equivalent**
- ✓ Experience in organic chemistry/chemical synthesis
- ✓ Experience with (in silico) drug screening is advantageous
- ✓ Experience with biochemistry assays is advantageous
- ✓ Experience with models of obesity/cancer/liver dysfunction is advantageous
- ✓ The candidate should be capable of both working independently and collaboratively in a team
- ✓ Excellent organizational and time management skills
- ✓ Excellent skills in spoken and written English
- ✓ Full commitment, flexibility as well as innovate and creative thinking are a must

Interested ?

Applications should be sent directly to esteban.gurzov@ulb.be and steven.ballet@vub.be

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Full Professor – Bioorganic Chemistry
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Starting date: June 2025 (earliest).
Deadline for the submission of applications: April 30th 2025