

Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics

Polish Academy of Sciences

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Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics PAS, Department of Microbial Biochemistry is opening a call for **two Ph.D. student positions** who will be involved in a project funded by the Polish National Science Centre entitled "**Identification of *Streptococcus anginosus* virulence factors.**" The project is led by prof. **Izabela Sitkiewicz** (Department of Drug Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, National Medicines Institute) and carried out by the **StrepVIR** consortium of National Medicines Institute, Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics PAS (Department of Microbial Biochemistry and Sequencing Unit), and Jagiellonian University (Department of Microbiology).

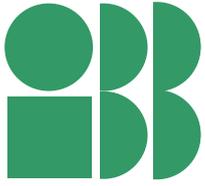
The main goal of the project is to identify factors responsible for the virulence of *Streptococcus anginosus* (SAG), the bacterium responsible for the growing number of life-threatening infections in humans. Biology of these microorganisms is not fully understood, and the mechanisms of virulence of these bacteria are mostly unknown. Thanks to the development of genomic sequencing techniques, last years brought a lot of information about this group of organisms and opened new approaches to develop strategies to study SAG biology and pathogenesis. Genes involved in virulence will be identified by the construction of SAG "knock-out" mutants and their function will be assessed by the StrepVIR consortium partners. The Ph.D. students will be involved in mutant construction and will study mutant phenotypes such as cell viability, production of specific enzymes, interaction with human epithelial cells, virulence assays in amoeba model, etc.

Requirements for the candidate:

- holds MSc degree (or equivalent) in Biology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, or will be close to obtaining it;
- has good knowledge in microbiology and molecular biology;
- has experience in laboratory work, including basic molecular biology techniques;
- has fluency in spoken and written English;
- is well organized, systematic, and highly motivated;
- is enthusiastic about science and problem solving, can ask questions;

Our offer

- A position focused on research with no teaching obligations;
- Full-time Ph.D. scholarship for three years (3000 PLN net per month);



- Participation in courses and conferences;

The application must include:

- Curriculum vitae,
- Cover letter,
- At least one recommendation letter and contact details of the referee/s,
- A list of publications and/or communications (if applicable).

The research of the Ph.D. students will be supervised by Izabela Sitkiewicz (NMI) and Izabela Kern-Zdanowicz (IBB PAS).

Applications can be emailed to i.sitkiewicz@nil.gov.pl (Izabela Sitkiewicz) and iza@ibb.waw.pl (Izabela Kern-Zdanowicz).

Deadline for the application is September 29th, 2019 (23:59).
Job starting date is October 1st, 2019 (start date is negotiable).

Selected applicants will be invited for an interview for September 30th, 2019 and asked to present their work.

All applications must contain the following statement to allow us to process your data: "I hereby give my consent for the processing of my personal data by the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics PAS with its seat in Warsaw Pawińskiego 5a, 02-106 hereinafter referred to as the Institute for the purpose of the recruitment process and for future recruitment processes conducted by the Institute under Art. 23 ust 1 pkt 1 of the Personal Data Protection Act dated on 29 August 1997, consolidated text: Journal of Laws 2016, item 922 with further amendments and under Art. 6 ust.1 lit. a of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such GDPR (Dz. U. UE. L. z 2016 r. Nr 119)."