

Adhesion and Signaling in Metastatic Melanoma

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Postdoctoral position to study oncogenic signaling in melanoma

Research context

The Ablain Lab is committed to uncovering new vulnerabilities of cancer cells through a better understanding of the mechanisms of tumor initiation and progression. Hyperactivation of the MAPK pathway is responsible for melanoma formation and development. Targeted therapies that block this pathway have demonstrated clinical efficacy, but their impact is limited by the emergence of resistance. Identifying new targets in this pathway could thus improve current therapies. We have recently discovered a regulator of this pathway that could represent a new vulnerability in cancer cells. However, its exact role remains to be determined. We combine mechanistic studies in human cell lines with powerful genetic manipulation techniques in zebrafish and analyses in clinical samples to investigate the role of candidate genes in the hope of developing innovative therapies against aggressive cancers.

Goal of the project

The goals of this postdoctoral fellowship are to characterize the role of a novel regulator of the MAPK pathway in melanoma cell survival in vitro and in a zebrafish model, to elucidate its mode of action by mechanistic analyses in human cells, and to explore its therapeutic implications.

Research team

The Ablain Lab was created at the end of 2020 at the Cancer Research Center of Lyon (CRCL). It consists of 2 PhD students, 2 postdoctoral researchers and 2 research assistants, and benefits from an adequate level of funding. The CRCL offers a rich scientific environment focused on cancer biology, with 25 research teams and several state-of-the-art core facilities. An aquatics facility for zebrafish is available on the ENS Lyon site in Gerland. The proximity of the Leon Berard Comprehensive Cancer Center facilitates interactions with the clinic and encourages collaborations and translational approaches. For further information, <http://www.crcl.fr/>

Candidate profile

We are seeking highly motivated candidates with experience in any related field of biology (genetics, molecular or cell biology, biochemistry). Candidates with a background in cancer biology are strongly encouraged to apply. Experience with zebrafish is not required. Proficiency in English is expected.

Application

Qualified candidates should send an email expressing their interest to julien.ablain@lyon.unicancer.fr (with “Postdoc application” in the subject line). Please include your CV with contact information of at least 2 references.



Initial contract will be 1 year with possibility of extension. Start date is flexible.