Unil

Université de Lausanne

PhD Position In Tumour Tissue Engineering

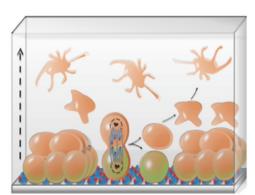


Are you interested in stem cells and cancer, and want to work in a diverse and multicultural lab at the heart of the Swiss Alps in the scenic city of Lausanne?

A PhD position in tissue engineering is available in the Habib lab (www.habiblab.org) at the department of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Lausanne.

The Habib lab has engineered a novel human bone tissue that maintains bone-stem cells and a cascade of osteogenic differentiation. The tissue can be used not only for drug screening and osteogenesis modelling but can be incorporated into novel bandages that can promote bone repair in vivo. These technologies resulted in a patent, over 107 news articles and a televised coverage in CBS-News.

Despite surgery and chemotherapy, long-term survival rates for patients of the bone cancer osteosarcoma



A 3D model of Wnt-mediated osteogenic tissue formation

have not improved for three decades. Osteosarcoma remains the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in paediatric patients.

This project aims to engineer 3D osteosarcomas tissues that resemble aspects of the *in vivo* tumour. The student will characterise the tissue and use genomic approaches to investigate specific pathways that impact the tumour tissue formation. The engineered tumour tissue will be subjected to a high-throughput drug screen to identify molecules that can target osteosarcoma stem cells and their progeny *in vitro* and in osteosarcoma animal models.

This project will build on our recent progress in this area (Okuchi et al Nature Materials 2021). You should hold a MSc degree in a biological/bioengineering sciences or related disciplines, be highly motivated and have an interest in developmental signalling and tumour biology.

Position information

Expected start date: 01/May/2022 (to be discussed). Contract length: 1 year, renewable 2 x 2 years, maximum 5 years. Starting salary: 55,250 CHF/annum





Deadline: 10/March/2022

The candidate should hold a MSc in biology/bioengineering or relevant disciplines. Please submit your CV (maximum 2 sides of A4), publication list and a covering letter. In your covering letter (maximum one side of A4), please summarize your previous research experience(s) and explain how you meet the criteria above.