

Post-Doctoral Scientist in Molecular Biology of Virus-Host Interactions

Institute of Medical Virology
University of Zurich, Switzerland

We seek a highly-motivated post-doctoral scientist to join the Hale group based at the Institute of Medical Virology at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. The group studies the molecular biology of virus-host interactions, with an emphasis on influenza viruses, host-range and interferon signaling pathways. In order to study these processes, we combine modern molecular virology with gene perturbation screens, CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene editing, targeted proteomics and molecular cell biology/biochemistry. Recent examples of our work include studies on host factor splicing and its role in driving influenza virus host adaptation (**Domingues, Eletto, Magnus *et al*, Nature Communications, 2019; Domingues & Hale, Cell Reports, 2017**), as well as host factor post-translational modifications and their contributions to innate immunity (**Schmidt *et al*, PNAS, 2019; Domingues *et al*, Cell Reports, 2015**).

Position & Qualifications: The position is available to start from 1st January 2020 or upon mutual agreement. Candidates should hold, or expect to be soon awarded, a PhD in molecular cell biology, virology, or similar. Due to funding restrictions, the PhD degree should not have been obtained prior to 2018. Candidates should have a strong scientific track record with at least one research publication as first author in a peer-reviewed journal. Experience in mammalian cell-culture and standard molecular biology techniques is expected. A background in molecular virology or innate immunity is desirable, although not essential. The successful candidate will have excellent oral communication and writing skills (in English), a curiosity-driven attitude, and will demonstrate enthusiasm, flexibility and independence. A competitive salary will be offered.

Environment: The Hale group is a friendly, collaborative and international research team consisting of the Principal Investigator, and typically 1-2 post-doctoral scientists, 4-5 PhD students and a technician. We are located within the Institute of Medical Virology at the University of Zurich (Irchel Campus), and have excellent close working relationships with neighbouring groups interested in influenza virus entry (Stertz), HIV antibody responses (Trkola) and viral metagenomics (Huber), as well as clinical colleagues in Infectious Diseases based at the University Hospital Zurich. The Institute's infrastructure, which includes modern Biosafety Level 2 & 3 facilities, is outstanding, and the campus offers easy access to state-of-the-art core facilities in genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics and advanced microscopy technologies. In addition, the group has been well-funded by the European Research Council (ERC) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF), and has a track record in supporting trainees to apply for and obtain independent funding.

More details about the group, its publications and interests can be found on the group website, <http://www.virology.uzh.ch/research/ghale.html>; or via Twitter [@bg_hale](https://twitter.com/bg_hale).

Applications: Interested candidates should apply to the Principal Investigator, Prof. Dr. Ben Hale, directly (hale.ben@virology.uzh.ch) with an up-to-date CV (including publication list), names and contact details of 2 referees, and a brief motivation letter detailing their scientific background and research interests. Candidates to be considered further will be contacted by e-mail to discuss a visit to Zurich to meet the group and to give a research seminar. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled.