

The University Hospital of Tübingen is a leading center of German university medicine. Every year, around 75,000 inpatients and around 380,000 outpatients are treated. With around 10,000 employees, it is the largest employer in the region. The quality of patient care is certified with the KTQ seal of approval.

The Institute for Ophthalmic Research at the University of Tübingen is looking for a

## PhD student (f/m/d) – Neuroscience, Ophthalmology

for the group of Prof. Marius Ueffing. The part time position (65 %) is initially limited until 30.06.2025 with prospect of prolongation.

The group of Prof. Marius Ueffing at the Institute for Ophthalmic Research at the University of Tübingen, Germany, is looking for a PhD student with a high interest in neuroscience and translational research within the project

### “Towards clinical translation of a mutation-independent treatment of Retinal Degeneration by inhibiting VCP”

funded by the Transformative Research Award (TRA) program from Fighting Blindness Canada, starting July 1st, 2023.

### Project description:

Retinal degeneration (RD) affecting photoreceptors, either inherited or age-related, leads to a mostly progressive loss of vision and subsequent blindness. To date, almost all forms of RD remain untreatable. With the aim to develop therapy for a broad spectrum of RD, the project follows a new and innovative molecular approach for treating RD via modulation of proteostasis and energy rebalancing.

### Your tasks:

- Preparation of organotypic retinal cultures to identify and validate pharmacological compounds with therapeutic properties
- Analyse drug effects on the level of retinal structure and cell biology by histology, immunostaining, cell death assays, microscopy, and western blot analyses of specific marker proteins
- Test selected compounds in several relevant RD animal models affected by diverse gene mutations
- Test compound formulation in a delivery system to provide sustained intravitreal drug release in vivo
- Validate and test in vivo the formulated small molecules by intravitreal injection in selected animal models for RD to ascertain target-specificity, safety, efficacy, and dosing estimation for proof of concept towards initiation of a clinical trial

### Required qualifications:

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with a degree in life sciences (diploma/master) or medical sciences with a strong interest in neurosciences. Experience in vision science, neurobiology, and relevant laboratory experience would be preferred. Experience in animal experimentation favorable. Good English language skills are required.

### What we offer:

The Institute for Ophthalmic Research at the University of Tübingen is headed by Prof. Marius Ueffing and cooperates closely with the University Eye Hospital (Prof. Karl Ulrich Bartz-Schmidt) within the Centre for Ophthalmology. Our group focuses on identifying pathomechanisms of Retinal Degeneration (RD), finding genetic and biomarker signatures, and developing personalized therapeutic approaches for RD, including validation of therapies in animal models and translation into clinical practice ([www.eye-tuebingen.de/ueffinglab/research-topics/retinal-degeneration-and-therapy-development/](http://www.eye-tuebingen.de/ueffinglab/research-topics/retinal-degeneration-and-therapy-development/)).

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

**Dr. Blanca Arango-Gonzalez**  
07071 29-80741  
blanca.arango-gonzalez@klinikum.uni-tuebingen.de

**Closing date for applications:**  
**18.06.2023**

We are looking forward to your application to **Dr. Blanca Arango-Gonzalez** including CV and cover letter under specification of the **index number 2835**.

Apply now

We can offer to work in a team of highly motivated scientists, a stimulating atmosphere and, access to advanced technical infrastructure, support to participate in training activities and international conferences. The candidate will also enroll in the Graduate Training Center of Neuroscience PhD program at Eberhard Karls University Tübingen (<http://www.neuroschool-tuebingen.de>) for lectures, seminars, and other learning activities.

We apply the collective agreement for the public service of the federal states (TV-L), severely disabled persons are given priority in case of equal suitability. Presentation costs can unfortunately not be covered. Please observe the applicable vaccination regulations. As the University of Tübingen aims to increase the proportion of women among its academic staff, women are strongly encouraged to apply. Employment is based on the relevant provisions of university law.

### **To apply:**

Applicants should address their application to Dr. Blanca Arango-Gonzalez ([blanca.arango-gonzalez@klinikum.uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:blanca.arango-gonzalez@klinikum.uni-tuebingen.de)). Please email a single pdf file containing a cover letter, CV, copy of final certificates, and contact details of two academic referees. The deadline for application is 18.06.2023

For more information, please visit:  
[www.medizin.uni-tuebingen.de/karriere](http://www.medizin.uni-tuebingen.de/karriere)



**Universitätsklinikum  
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