



Research position in immunology available in CoVaRR-Net

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH POSITION

The **CoVaRR-Net** program is a newly established national rapid response network to monitor and characterize emerging SARS-CoV-2 viral variants of concern (VOCs), and inform public health officials of the relative threat of detected VOCs in communities across Canada. CoVaRR-Net is led by Dr. Marc-André Langlois at the University of Ottawa, and is organized around eight thematic pillars, including the ***Immunology and Vaccines Pillar***.

A position is currently available for a talented ***Research Associate*** to help lead T cell studies in the ***Immunology and Vaccines Pillar*** of the CoVaRR-Net program. The current funding allows for a contract of one (1) year and extension beyond this period is likely. The successful applicant will be based in Montréal, in particular at McGill University and the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC).

The Research Associate will report to Dr. Ciriaco Piccirillo, responsible for the *T cell studies* sub-pillar and whose lab is located at the Glen campus of the RI-MUHC. He is Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology of McGill University, and Senior Scientist in the Program in Infectious Diseases and Immunity in Global Health (IDIGH) of the RI-MUHC. Dr. Piccirillo leads a research program which focuses on mechanisms of regulation of T cell responses in autoimmune, infectious and inflammatory diseases in a variety of animal models and humans.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The candidate will coordinate and support a variety of research activities including:

- Perform experimental procedures, including:
 - *Whole blood processing and sample preparation*
 - *Isolation of peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs)*
 - *Maintenance of a PBMC repository*
 - *Cell culture of primary T cells*
 - *Antigen-specific stimulation of T cells*
 - *Characterization of cellular functions*
 - *ELISAs*
 - *Multi-parametric flow cytometry*

- Design and execution of experiments
- Conducting literature reviews
- Collecting, analyzing and interpreting research data
- Performing data entry to manage study data
- Conducting statistical analyses
- Assisting with manuscript preparation and editing
- Monitoring biosafety requirements and developing protocols pertaining to handling and transport of hazardous goods

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ph.D. in immunology or related speciality (human immunology, immuno-virology)
- Demonstrated competence and proficiency in the following laboratory techniques: cell culture, immunological methods, flow cytometry
- Training and/or relevant experience in project management
- Ease in conducting literature reviews, research design, research methods, managing data, data analysis, knowledge dissemination.
- Must be able to exercise good judgment, exercise considerable independence, take initiative and possess strong interpersonal skills
- Must possess strong interpersonal and communication skills (verbal and written) and be comfortable engaging and exchanging information with others

HOW TO APPLY?

- 1) Please include a cover letter outlining how you meet the qualifications for this position and why you would be an ideal candidate.
- 2) Please email your updated CV to ciro.piccirillo@mcgill.ca
- 3) Provide the name and contact information for three (3) individuals that can provide a letter of recommendation on your behalf