

Graduate student position to study a new enzyme and its role in innate immunity.

We are looking for a motivated graduate student (MSc/PhD) to study the function and relevance of a new enzymatic activity we have discovered in vertebrate cells. This enzyme produces dUTP. Increasing the cellular concentration of dUTP leads to its incorporation into the DNA, which would be undesirable for dividing cells. We rather hypothesize that this enzymatic activity appeared in vertebrates as an innate antiviral mechanism. Our unpublished results are consistent with this hypothesis. The project will use molecular, cellular and biochemical techniques, as well as KO mice, to study the biological function and physiological relevance of this enzyme. The laboratory is located at the IRCM in downtown Montréal, which has state of the art research facilities and student training programs.

Candidates with excellent academic records and interested in a research career should send a CV, letter of intention and university transcripts to Dr Javier M Di Noia (javier.di.noia@ircm.qc.ca).

Given the novelty of the subject, there are no publications on it yet. Detailed information on the laboratory, including publications on our other research lines can be found at www.ircm.qc.ca/DiNoia and <https://sites.google.com/site/labdinoia/>.