

The DFG Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) 1648 “*Emerging Viruses: Pathogenesis, Structure, Immunity*” invites applications for

### A Ph.D. position at

### The Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine

with a salary of 65% grade 13 (TV-L E13) and a four-year term with social security and healthcare benefits.

The Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM)([www.bnitm.de](http://www.bnitm.de)) is located in Hamburg and it is the largest Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in Germany. BNITM is the National Reference Centre for Tropical Pathogens, a WHO Collaborating Centre and member of the Leibniz Research Association.

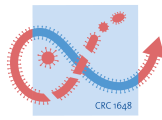
Emerging viral infections are one of the greatest threats to global health. They are defined as viral diseases that have emerged in a population for the first time, or that have existed locally but are rapidly spreading to new geographic areas and populations. A number of emerging viruses have been associated with liver disease, including new hepatitis B-like viruses from bats, and other not strictly hepatotropic viruses such as Ebola virus, Dengue virus and Yellow Fever virus. We hypothesize that the capacity of emerging viruses to replicate in liver cells impacts pathophysiology and disease outcome. We will develop different preclinical models to understand the zoonotic potential, hepatotropism and pathophysiology of these viruses, and establish models to study yet unknown emerging pathogens (Pathogen ‘X’).

We are looking for a highly motivated, hard-working, independent, creative mindset, with strong problem-solving capabilities, and collaborative candidate.

We are looking forward to applications from individuals with:

- An excellent master’s degree or equivalent in biology, physics, biochemistry, chemistry, molecular life sciences, infection biology or a related subject
- A strong interest in infection diseases, animal models, immunology, and virology
- Conscientiousness, a structured working approach and a strong work ethic
- Commitment, team spirit and good communication skills, excellent organizational skills, and ability to plan and execute experiments independently and flexibly
- Very good spoken and written English

CRC 1648 brings together a multidisciplinary team of basic research investigators and clinician scientists from leading research institutions in northern Germany: University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), Universität Hamburg, Leibniz Institute of Virology (LIV), Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical

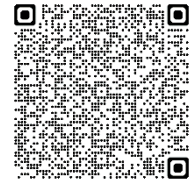


Medicine (BNITM), Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI), Centre for Structural Systems Biology (CSSB) and the Universitätsspital Basel, Switzerland.

The student will be allocated at the BNITM in the Preclinical Models Group (Virology Department), under the supervision of Dr. Estefania Rodriguez. From the second PhD year, short stays (6-9 months) are planned at the Institute of Health Carlos III ([www.isciii.es](http://www.isciii.es)) in Madrid (Spain).

All students will be enrolled in the integrated Research Training Group (iRTG). The aim of the iRTG is to train future leaders for the global fight against potential pandemics. This goal is achieved through an innovative and comprehensive multidisciplinary graduate program. Leading scientists in molecular and structural virology, epidemiology and computational modeling, bioinformatics and machine learning, viral immunology, vaccine research, investigation of virus-mediated pathomechanisms, statistics, and epidemic preparedness, will train the iRTG students.

More details about individual positions are available here: [www.uke.de/sfb1648](http://www.uke.de/sfb1648)



We provide a diverse and equal opportunity work environment regardless of age, gender, sexual identity, disability, race, or religion. Our institutions have signed and commit to the Charta of Diversity. We explicitly aim to increase the proportion of women in management positions, especially among academic staff in research and teaching. Women with equal qualifications will be given preference. The same applies in the case of under-representation of one gender in the area of employment. Persons with severe disabilities with equal aptitude, competence and professional performance will be given priority.

Applications are to be submitted as email attachment (a **single** PDF file) to [estefania.rodriguez@bnitm.de](mailto:estefania.rodriguez@bnitm.de) with the subject "CRC 1648 application" and need to contain:

- Letter of motivation indicating your area of interest and why would you like to join our team
- CV including two references
- Certificates (University entrance, qualification, BSc, and MSc)
- Abstract of Master thesis (1 page) including a summary of experimental skills
- List of publications (if applicable)

We look forward to receiving your completed application by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft



**CSSB**  
Centre for Structural  
Systems Biology



Universitätsspital  
Basel