Ce–M–M–
Research Center for Molecular Medicine
of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

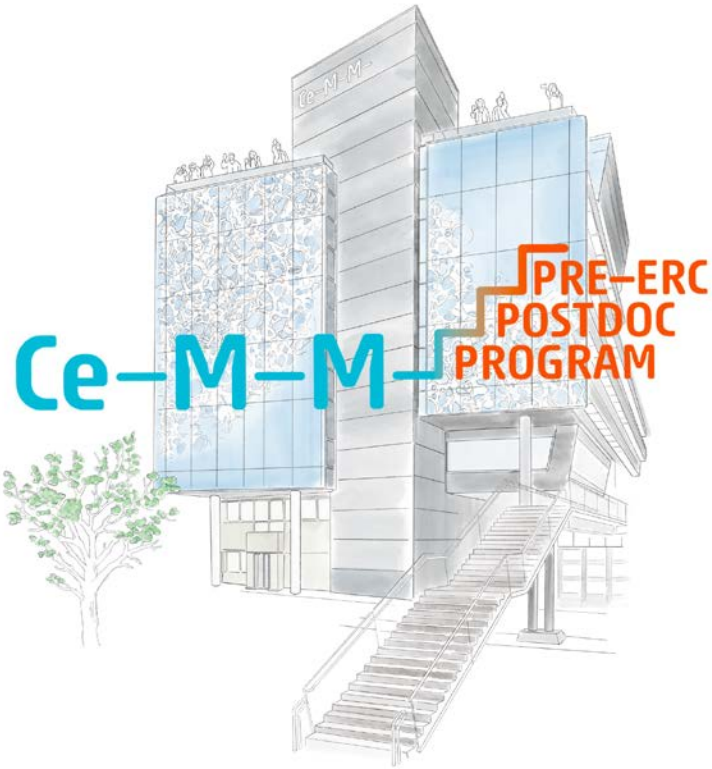
ÖAW

CeMM International Postdoc Program (Vienna, Austria)

Pre-ERC Postdoc Program in Cellular, Molecular and Digital Medicine

We are recruiting a group of **postdocs** who are eager to pursue ground-breaking biomedical research, and we will help them to establish themselves as **future scientific leaders**. This postdoc program is designed to prepare postdoctoral researchers for a successful ERC Starting Grant application and for an independent research career in top research organizations in Europe and around the world.

The postdoc program is based at the **CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna**, one of Europe's leading centres for basic biomedical research – with clinical translation in mind. Selected candidates will join one of CeMM's research groups for 3 to 6 years, addressing ambitious research questions in areas such as cancer, immunology, chemical biology, epigenetics, metabolism, and genomic medicine. Research projects will focus on medically relevant problems, including disease mechanisms, modern therapeutics and diagnostic strategies. On top of this, postdocs will receive extensive career development and leadership training from the entire CeMM Faculty and additional experts in a highly collaborative and supportive environment.



CeMM Pre-ERC Postdoc Program (Illustration © Tatjana Hirschmugl/CeMM)

What we offer:

- An international group of highly collaborative colleagues that will help you achieve your scientific and career goals
- Top-notch environment with the ideas, projects, resources, infrastructure, collaborations, and mindset for ground-breaking research
- Excellent track record of past postdocs who have become internationally successful principal investigators, professors, entrepreneurs
- Strong focus on disease biology and translational research: cancer, metabolic disorders, inflammation/infection, drug discovery
- Interdisciplinary projects connecting biology with medicine, experiments with computation, and discovery with translation
- Unique opportunity to engage close interactions with physicians and clinical researchers at the Medical University of Vienna on one of Europe's largest medical campuses
- Opportunities to collaborate with industry (biotech/pharma) and to get involved in academic start-up/spin-off companies
- Training program in project management, scientific writing, visual communication, entrepreneurship, leadership and data science
- Special training for writing successful ERC Starting Grants as a 'ticket' to an outstanding academic career
- Mentoring Program within EU-LIFE, an alliance of 15 top research centres in life sciences to support and strengthen European research excellence
- Being part of a thriving academic and social community in Vienna, one the cities with the best quality-of-life in the world
- A competitive postdoc salary according to the Austrian Science Fund, which amounts to an annual gross salary slightly above EUR 50,000. The CeMM employment contract includes full insurance (health, accident, pension) and a one-off payment for moving
- CeMM's HR department and administrative team offers support with relocation, visa applications, onboarding, family support, etc.

Whom we are looking for:

- Candidates who want to pursue innovative biomedical research and substantially advance their scientific career
- Candidates with international professional experience and enhanced potential to receive an ERC Starting Grant in the future
- Open to both PhD (natural sciences) and MD (medical sciences) holders
- From a variety of academic backgrounds: molecular biology, biomedical research, bioinformatics, biochemistry, bioengineering, etc.
- With the motivation, skills, experiences, and initial achievements (subject to academic age) to qualify for a competitive postdoc program
- Required are scientific quality and originality, as well as a collaborative and interdisciplinary mindset

Potential projects:

- Mucosal Immunology (Campbell Lab). Coordination of host and microbial physiology at the intestinal mucosa
- Tumor immunology (Maier Lab). Single-cell dissection and functional modulation of T cell immunity in head and neck cancer patients
- Cancer Biology (Serrugia Lab). Dissecting non-coding sequence variation in pediatric leukemia
- Synthetic Chemistry (Unterlass Lab). Efficient Synthesis of N-Heterocycle-based compounds for materials and biology

- Targeted Protein Degradation (Winter Lab). Dissecting molecular mechanisms via multi-omics approaches
- We are open to other ideas that fit into the broader scope and mission of the CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine

The Institute

CeMM is an international research institute of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and a founding member of EU-LIFE. The mission of CeMM is to achieve maximum scientific innovation in molecular medicine to improve healthcare. It has an outstanding track record of top-notch science (last few years: >10 papers in Nature/Cell/Science/NEJM, >25 papers in Nature/Cell sister journals) and medical translation. At CeMM, an international and creative team of scientists and medical doctors pursues free-minded basic life science research in a large and vibrant hospital environment of outstanding medical tradition and practice. CeMM's research is based on post-genomic technologies and focuses on societally important diseases, such as immune disorders and infections, cancer and metabolic disorders. We operate in a unique mode of super-cooperation, connecting biology with medicine, experiments with computation, discovery with translation, and science with society and the arts. The goal of CeMM is to pioneer the science that nurtures the precise, personalized, predictive and preventive medicine of the future, and to train a modern blend of biomedical scientists to make great contributions. www.cemm.at

Vienna is frequently ranked the world's best city to live. It is a United Nations city with a large English-speaking community. The official language at CeMM is English, and more than 40 different nationalities are represented at the institute. CeMM promotes equal opportunity and harbours a mix of different talents, backgrounds, competences, and interests.

Eligibility Criteria:

- You must hold a PhD (or will have been awarded your PhD by the time of starting the Pre-ERC Postdoc Program in March 2022) and your PhD defence date must be no earlier than 2018
- You must have at least one first-author publication published by the time of starting the Postdoc

Selection Process:

All submitted applications are reviewed by the CeMM Faculty and selected candidates are invited to submit a short, recorded presentation and research proposal. Shortlisted candidates are then invited to participate in online panel interviews with CeMM Faculty members which will take place at the end of September. At the end of the selection process, candidates will be asked to submit their preference regarding which research groups they would like to work with, which may be identical or different from the original choice indicated in the cover letter.