

Job Advertisement No. 23/2017

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute –** (HKI, www.leibniz-hki.de) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel antibiotics. The Department of **Microbial Pathogenicity Mechanisms** at the HKI offers

General HiWi (research assistant) positions

Topic: Pathogenicity mechanisms of human pathogenic yeasts

Human pathogenic fungi frequently cause infections of skin and mucosae, however they are also capable of causing life threatening mycoses. The Department of Microbial Pathogenicity Mechanisms HKI, is concerned with the investigation of infections caused by human pathogenic fungi. Research is focused on the pathogenesis of mycoses due to the yeasts *Candida albicans* and *C. glabrata*. In contrast to most other human pathogenic fungi, these *Candida* species are part of the normal human microbial flora. However, if the natural barrier of the host is breached, or if the immune system is weakened, *Candida* cells are able to cause infections. In these cases, the fungus can overgrow the microbial flora and may enter deeper tissue layers, the blood system and internal organs.

We aim to find and characterise the factors involved in the ability of fungi to cause diseases. To this end, we apply methods of cellular and molecular biology, immunology, infection biology, microbiology, and biochemistry. We want to learn more about the pathogenicity factors of these fungi and the *Candida*-specific host responses.

We offer HiWi positions for general support of our department.

Applicants should be interested in microbial infection biology and should have good theoretical and practical knowledge in microbiology, molecular biology and/or biochemistry (preferred students studying Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology or Molecular Medicine). Besides good knowledge and skills we expect excellent abilities to work in an international team. The work will be done in a very well equipped S2 laboratory.

Please apply by uploading your application with CV and certificate of study/transcript of records to the **online application system** of the HKI.

Further information: www.leibniz-hki.de/en/microbial-pathogenicity-mechanisms.html