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## Job Advertisement HKI-33/2020

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute** (Leibniz-HKI, [www.leibniz-hki.de](http://www.leibniz-hki.de)) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel natural product-based antibiotics. Talented and highly qualified candidates are invited to apply for a position in a newly established **Junior Research Group** of **Dr. Mark S. Gresnigt** as a

# Postdoctoral Researcher (f/div/m) in Adaptive Pathogenicity Strategies

for three years initially.

**Research Areas:** Microbiology, Mycology, Immunology

This project is part of a newly established Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)-funded Emmy Noether research group that will investigate fungal adaptation to the inflammatory environment to better understand pathogenesis and treat fungal infections.

### Project background:

The immune system possesses elegant strategies to cope with potentially harmful invading microorganisms. Nevertheless, pathogens themselves have evolved mechanisms to deal with the threats imposed by the immune system. Yeasts like *Candida albicans* are common commensals of the human microbiota, yet also major opportunistic fungal pathogens that frequently cause superficial and even fatal infections. The commensal co-existence with the human host allows co-evolution of fungal adaptation strategies in line with the threats imposed by the host, which are particularly represented by the immune system.

In this project, the successful applicant will investigate how *Candida albicans* responds and adapts to different inflammatory environments. With a specific focus on how this influences commensalism and pathogenicity. The candidate will identify and characterize the factors produced by different types of immune cells that can induce fungal adaptations.

### Candidate's profile:

We expect a doctoral degree in microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, or related disciplines. Candidates about to obtain their degree are welcome to apply. Furthermore, the applicant should be able to work team-oriented as well as supervise students. A strong experimental background in the fields of immunology, microbiology, or infection biology is favoured. Practical experience in analysis of large datasets / transcriptomics is advantageous. The applicant should have very good communication skills in English.

### We offer:

The successful candidate will be hosted in the newly established **Emmy Noether Junior Research Group** of **Dr. Mark S. Gresnigt**. The Leibniz-HKI is embedded in the outstanding scientific environment of the Beutenberg Campus providing state-of-the-art research facilities and a highly integrative network of life science groups. We offer a multifaceted scientific project with excellent technical facilities, a place in a young, committed team, as well as strong scientific collaborations.

Salary is paid according to German TV-L (salary agreement for public service employees). As an equal opportunity employer the Leibniz-HKI is committed to increasing the percentage of female scientists and therefore especially encourages them to apply.

### Further information:

Dr. Mark S. Gresnigt | +49 3641 532 1305 | [career@leibniz-hki.de](mailto:career@leibniz-hki.de)

**Applications:**

Complete applications in English should include a cover letter, a CV containing a complete list of publications, a brief statement of research experiences, the addresses of two possible referees, and should be submitted by **October 2, 2020**, via the Leibniz-HKI **online application system**.

