

**Job Offer No. 014/2024**

The Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI), a member of the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, invites applications for the positions of independent

**Helmholtz Junior Research Group Leaders (f/m/d)  
(with tenure option)  
in the broader field of infectious disease research and microbiology  
for its  
Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI) in Würzburg  
and the  
Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS) in Saarbrücken**

HZI is Germany's largest academic institution dedicated exclusively to infection research. In line with its mission, it develops new strategies for the early detection, prevention and treatment of bacterial and viral infections. HZI is engaged with industry in the discovery and development of novel anti-infectives. As a member of the German Centre for Infection Research (DZIF), HZI makes important contributions to translational infection research at the national and international levels.

The HIRI in Würzburg is a federally funded research institution whose mission is world-class science at the interface of RNA biology & infection research. It performs basic research on the role RNA plays in pathogens and infected hosts. The ultimate goal is to leverage the vast potential of RNA as a diagnostic, target and drug to combat infectious diseases, such as those caused by SARS-CoV-2 or multidrug-resistant bacteria. Examples include developing new single-cell technologies as well as RNA-seq and CRISPR-based methodologies to visualize and interrogate infection processes. (see [www.helmholtz-hiri.de](http://www.helmholtz-hiri.de)).

The Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS) in Saarbrücken was founded jointly by the HZI and Saarland University as the first research institute explicitly dedicated to pharmaceutical research in 2009. Scientists at HIPS develop and employ experimental and computational techniques to provide new active substances against infectious diseases, optimise them for use in humans and investigate how they can best be transported to their site of action in the human body. A special focus of the institute is on microbial natural products from soil bacteria and the human microbiota including their mode of action and production as well as innovative medicinal chemistry-driven approaches. (see [www.helmholtz-hips.de](http://www.helmholtz-hips.de)).

We are looking for highly qualified junior scientists with international experience, holding a PhD or MD degree, and having an excellent scientific track record in the areas of microbiology including the microbiota, phages, virology, CRISPR biology, immunology, vaccinology and immunotherapy, bioinformatics, systems biology, medicinal chemistry, natural products or drug research. Junior Research Groups will be funded for a period of 5 years. Funding covers the positions of the group leader, a postdoctoral scientist, a PhD student, a technician plus consumables and instrumentation. A junior professorship at Würzburg University or the University of Saarland, respectively, is desirable. Based on a positive external review, a permanent position as group leader at the HZI will be offered to successful junior research group leaders.

Selected candidates can expect a vibrant scientific environment with much exchange between HZI's research topics and access to excellent infrastructure and networks. We also offer outstanding leadership training at the Helmholtz Management Academy. The HZI provides a family-friendly environment. We are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and strive for professional equality between women and men.

In addition, our offer includes:

- An attractive and varied job in a future-oriented research institute with an international environment at the Science Campus South in Braunschweig
- A state-of-the-art infrastructure and the latest technologies
- Flexible working hours, part-time models
- A corporate culture of appreciation and promotion of equal opportunities
- Extensive training and continuing education opportunities to develop professional knowledge and personal skills
- A family office to support family and career as well as childcare offers
- Interesting additional public service benefits

We therefore expressly welcome applications from qualified women for these positions. The position is suitable for part-time work.

People with severe disabilities and equivalent professional qualifications who are suitable for the position are given preference. In order to protect your rights, we ask you to provide us with a clearly recognizable reference to the existence of a degree of severe disability in your cover letter or resumé.

<b>Starting date:</b>	As soon as possible. The contract will initially run for five years.
<b>Salary:</b>	E15 TVöD Bund
<b>Working time:</b>	39 hours per week
<b>Place of work:</b>	Würzburg or Saarbrücken
<b>Probation period:</b>	6 months
<b>Published:</b>	18.01.2024
<b>Closing date:</b>	15.02.2024

For additional information, please contact the Scientific Director of the HIRI, Prof. Dr. Jörg Vogel: [joerg.vogel@helmholtz-hiri.de](mailto:joerg.vogel@helmholtz-hiri.de) or the Scientific Director of HIPS, Prof. Dr. Rolf Müller: [rolf.mueller@helmholtz-hips.de](mailto:rolf.mueller@helmholtz-hips.de).

For further information, please check:

<https://www.helmholtz.de/en/research/current-calls-for-applications/article/helmholtz-investigator-groups/>

#### **How to apply:**

Applications, including a full CV, list of publications, a brief outline of future research interests (max. 2 pages), an outline on establishing EDI in your future lab (max half page), and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mails of three referees should be sent electronically in **one document (PDF)**, quoting the **reference number 014/2024**, to the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research GmbH, Human Resources Department, Inhoffenstr. 7, 38124 Braunschweig, Germany or by e-mail to [JobsHZI@helmholtz-hzi.de](mailto:JobsHZI@helmholtz-hzi.de) **by 15 February 2024**.

When sending us your application documents, **please confirm** that you have read our privacy policy and that you agree to the processing of your personal data. Please use the text module in our [privacy policy](#) for this purpose. **Without these declarations, we cannot consider or process your application** and will immediately delete any application documents already received after the application deadline.

We look forward to receiving your application!