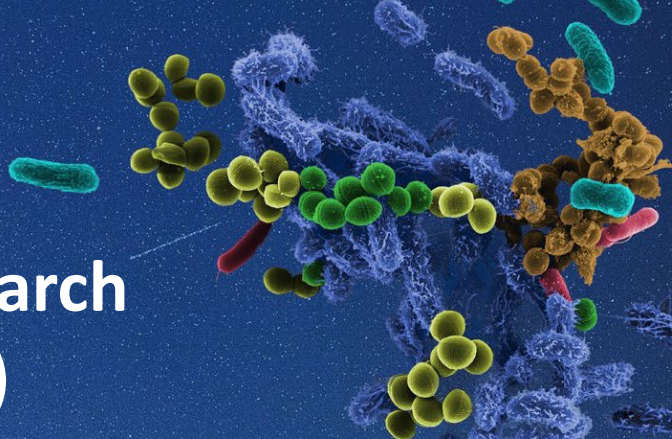


**WE SEEK:**

# Helmholtz Junior Research Group Leaders (f/m/d)



in the broader fields of **Infectious Disease Research · Pharmaceutical Research · RNA Biology**

**Locations:** Würzburg (HIRI) or Saarbrücken (HIPS)  
**Start:** from January 2027  
**Duration:** 5 years (tenure option)

The **Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)**, Germany's largest academic institution dedicated to infection research, invites applications for independent **Helmholtz Junior Research Group Leaders** within the prestigious [Helmholtz Investigator Groups program](#) (Standard Track & Pilot Track). We seek **exceptional postdoctoral researchers** with a **strong record of scientific excellence** and **clear potential for future leadership**. The program strongly encourages applications from women scientists.

## ABOUT THE INSTITUTES:

### **HIRI – [Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research \(Würzburg\)](#)**

HIRI conducts cutting-edge research at the interface of RNA biology and infection research, exploring RNA functions in microbes, viruses, pathogens, and infected hosts. With state-of-the-art technologies—CRISPR tools, single-cell analysis, advanced RNA sequencing—HIRI aims to harness RNA as a diagnostic, therapeutic target, and drug modality. **HIRI seeks candidates for the Standard Track.**

### **HIPS – [Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland \(Saarbrücken\)](#)**

HIPS focuses on combating antimicrobial resistance through the discovery and development of innovative anti-infectives. Research spans the full early drug discovery pipeline, integrating chemistry, biology, medicine, and AI-driven approaches. Close collaborations with Saarland University, its University Hospital, and industry partners enrich this highly interdisciplinary environment. **HIPS seeks candidates for the Pilot Track.**

## WE OFFER:

- **Five-year funding package:** group leader, postdoc, PhD student, technician, consumables, instrumentation
- **Prospective junior professorship** at Würzburg University or Saarland University
- **Tenure option:** permanent group leader position at HZI after positive external review
- Access to **excellent infrastructure**, vibrant scientific networks, interdisciplinary collaboration and support offices
- **Leadership training** via the Helmholtz Management Academy
- Family-friendly environment, childcare support, flexible working hours

FEELING  
INSPIRED?



Check-out our full job advertisement and information on how to [apply here](#).



APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:  
**February 15 2026**