PhD Program between the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB) and the China Scholarship Council (CSC)

Open PhD Position at Freie Universität Berlin, offered only to Chinese CSC scholarship candidates 2020

Please Note: this PhD position is only offered to Chinese PhD candidates for the application in the framework of the FUB-CSC PhD Program.

Department/Institute: Veterinary Medicine / Institute of Immunology
Subject area: Infection Immunology
Name of Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Susanne Hartmann
Number of open PhD positions: 1
Type of the PhD Study: Full Time
Project title: Protective immunological memory in helminth infections

PhD Project description:

Infections with helminths affect more than 2 billion people worldwide and are found in any domestic and wild animal species. Thus, helminth infections represent a major burden of both medical and veterinary importance. Helminth infections are dominated by type 2 T helper cell responses as well as eosinophil recruitment. In parallel, regulatory T cell responses are induced and dampen exaggerated pathology. Establishment of protective immunity to helminths in humans and large animals is insufficient and re-infections occur often.

The proposed project aims to decipher the immunological memory response to intestinal helminth infections. In terms of immunological memory, the host immune system relies on the generation and circulation of central and effector memory T cells. In recent years a novel subset of non-circulating tissue-resident memory T cells has also been discovered. We and others have shown that tissue-resident Th2 memory cells display high functionality in response to helminth reinfection and contribute to host protective immunity (1).

Therefore, the proposed project will focus on investigations of tissue-resident memory T cells in intestinal nematode infections of mice and swine and their functional roles in the context of unrelated inflammation, co-infections and anti-helminth vaccination strategies.


Language requirements:
IELTS: 6,5 oder TOEFL: 95 ibt
**Academic requirements:**

Academic requirement: Master of Science, preferable in Veterinary Medicine.

Experiences in: Immunology and Parasitology.

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**Information of the professor or research group leader (website, awards etc.):**

Webpage of the Institute of Immunology:

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**Please Note:** In a first step, the complete application should be submitted to csc@international.fu-berlin.de for evaluation by January 4th, 2020. Please do not contact the professor before. He/she will get in contact with you after having received the complete application via the International Office of Freie Universität Berlin in January.