

Hier  
entsteht  
Zukunft!



UNIVERSITÄT  
DES  
SAARLANDES

Foto: Uwe Beilhäuser

Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university's mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment. [Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4,000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.]

The Institute of Experimental Orthopaedics and Osteoarthritis Research is inviting applications for the following position commencing 01 January 2025

### **Academic research assistant (m/f/x)**

**Reference number W2547**, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale<sup>1</sup>, pay grade: E13 TV- L, duration of employment: until 31 October 2026, volume of employment: 100 % of standard working time.

#### **Workplace/Department:**

A postdoctoral position is available in the Institute of Experimental Orthopaedics and Osteoarthritis Research at the Medical Faculty (Homburg/Saar) of Saarland University.

We are a young, friendly, international and dynamic group. Saarland is a great place to live in the middle of Europe, next to France, Luxembourg, and Belgium.

The overarching objective of our Institute is to decipher fundamental mechanisms that drive osteoarthritis and to develop novel molecular therapies for cartilage repair and osteoarthritis. We investigate new strategies to regenerate damaged articular cartilage and other musculoskeletal tissues to restore the original functionality. Based on clinical needs, we are developing molecular therapies for the treatment of focal cartilage defects in non-osteoarthritic joints, meniscal lesions and osteoarthritis. We employ patient samples and animal models to interrogate the osteochondral crosstalk in health and disease with an emphasis on patient-specific factors. Another major area of interest is to utilize (AAV). The long-term objective is to integrate approaches in stem cell research, gene transfer, and tissue engineering

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<sup>1</sup> TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German *Länder*

The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.

to develop improved therapeutic strategies for articular cartilage defects, meniscal lesions and osteoarthritis. Ultimately, we seek to translate this work into improved therapies for patients.

Please see the following recent publications from our lab:

Olah et al., Sci Transl Med. 2022 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35080913/>

Venkatesan et al., Hum Gene Ther. 2022 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35722904/>

Maihöfer et al., Adv Mater. 2021 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33734514/>

Please see the following link for additional information:

<http://www.uks.eu/ieo>

<https://www.osteoarthritis-sinpain.eu/>

### **Job requirements and responsibilities:**

We are seeking a motivated Postdoctoral Research Fellow to work on an exciting project aiming at understanding and improving osteoarthritis in vitro and in vivo. The specific project involves up-to-date methods on histology, high resolution micro CT imaging, molecular biology and biochemistry in the context of the preclinical validation of advanced osteoarthritis therapies in a small animal model. This project is part of the EU project SINPAIN "A game changer for the treatment of osteoarthritis: a cost effective combined advanced therapy to treat knee osteoarthritis".

### **Your academic qualifications:**

- Mandatory requirements are a completed university degree (PhD and/or M.D. degree) in natural sciences, human or veterinary medicine or engineering.

### **The successful candidate will also be expected to:**

- Strong written and verbal skills are essential
- Language skills (according to GER): English – B2

### **What we can offer you:**

- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services ('Job-Ticket Plus' of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in a PDF file) by **08.11.2024** to **office-[eo@uks.eu](mailto:eo@uks.eu)**  
Please include the reference number **W2547** in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Frau Sonja Ramin.

Institute of Experimental Orthopaedics and Osteoarthritis Research, Building 37, Kirrberger Straße 100, 66421 Homburg, Germany

Tel.: +49 (0)6841-16-24569

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at <https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung>.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. [Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung](#). By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.