

InPharma Open PhD Position at FHNW in Switzerland (Basel area)

General information:

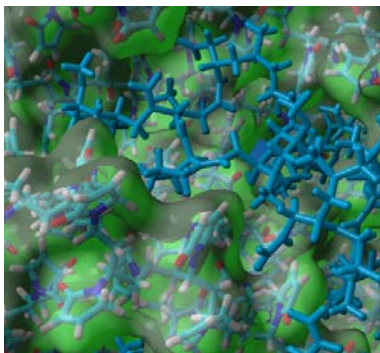
InPharma is about a fully integrated animal-free, end-to-end modelling approach to oral drug product development - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

InPharma is a MSCA European Industrial Doctorate programme offering a comprehensive training program addressing the challenges of developing emerging drug candidates into new licensed medicines, including innovative modeling and bio-predictive tools tailored to streamline the oral drug product development process.

InPharma brings together global pharmaceutical companies and leading research institutions together as a multi-sectorial team to deliver a unique research and training programme for 13 Early Stage Researchers (ESR) to complete their industrially based PhDs. Each ESR position in InPharma allows the researcher to work towards a PhD at one of our five leading academic institutions. The ESRs will be recruited within 2021 for a duration of 36 months. Every ESR will work on an independent research project which will be flexible enough to match the competence and goals of the candidate. Each ESR will spend a minimum of 18 months based in an industrial sector, which will provide experimental learning opportunities working within the Pharmaceutical drug development sector, and complement the research conducted as part of their PhD.

Open position:

Several PhD positions have in the meantime been filled so this job advertisement is about the position of ESR 6 hosted by the FHNW – University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland with the industrial partners Janssen in Belgium and Hafnium Labs in Denmark. The timing of the secondments comes with some flexibility to allow for smooth and successful continuation of the research work.



ESR 6: Computational pharmaceuticals applied to supersaturating drug delivery systems.

Host: FHNW (Switzerland)

PhD awarding institution: University of Basel.

Scientific objectives: Several drug delivery technologies are based on the principle of creating drug supersaturation to overcome the absorption hurdle due to poor aqueous solubility. This project is primarily on a preformulation level of drugs and their interactions with excipients. Experimental work is planned on high-throughput equipment, which enables application of modern machine learning tools. Selected mixtures of interest will be studied in more depth either by further experimental analytics (e.g. IR/Raman spectroscopy, dynamic light scattering, thermal analysis, or transmission electron microscopy) and/or other computational tools such as molecular modelling to target an improved mechanistic understanding of drug supersaturation.

Academic Requirements: M.Sc. (or equivalent graduation) in relevant area (e.g. Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, or also Chemists and Chemical Engineers). Proof of English proficiency as communication and teaching language throughout InPharma is English (e.g. TOEFL or similar test, not for native speakers).

Planned secondment:

Host: Janssen, Belgium; Duration: ~18 months; Purpose: Experimental data collection;

Host: Hafnium, Denmark; Duration: ~2 months; Purpose: Training and modelling using [Q-props®](#) tools.

Contact for information about the position ESR 6 (and for application see information below):

Prof. Dr. Martin Kuentz, University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland, School of Life Sciences, Institute for Pharma Technology, Hofackerstr. 30, 4132 Muttenz, Switzerland (martin.kuentz@fhnw.ch).



Requirements

The applicant must:

- Have a Master's degree (or any equivalent diploma) in a relevant area (e.g. Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, but also Physical Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, and Biology with a good background in project-specific scientific fields).
- Should be — at the date of recruitment — an 'early stage researcher (ESR)', i.e. in the first 4 years (full-time equivalent) of his/her research career and must not have a PhD doctoral degree. This is measured from the date when they obtained the degree which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate, either in the country which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided.
- Satisfy MSCA rules for Trans-national mobility: The applicant should not have resided in the country where the research training activities take place for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the recruitment date and not have carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in that country.
- Have solid written and oral communication skills in English as communication and teaching language throughout InPharma is English. Candidates who are not fluent in English are requested to provide proof of English proficiency (in speaking and writing) (e.g. (typically IELTS min. 7, TOEFL internet-based min. 90 or similar level as proven by other tests).

How to apply and timelines

The application is a **two-steps process** as also outlined under <https://www.inpharma-network.eu/open-positions>.

To apply for a position, a candidate must:

- 1) Fill in the **on line expression of interest and eligibility form**: <https://www.inpharma-network.eu/open-positions>
- 2) **Email a full application** to the Recruitment Committee: inpharma.network@gmail.com

This must include:

1. Letter of motivation outlining in this case regarding ESR 6.
2. a detailed CV – Europass format obligatory. This should include details such as education, work experience, skills, dissertations, research interests, career objectives, names and contact details of two referees (at least one academic) who are willing to be contacted about your potential suitability for the position, and/or list of publications if any;
3. a transcript of his/her master studies' grades (including the overall grade) if available and a transcript of the exam(s) on the bachelor level.
4. Proof of English language proficiency e.g. English language certificates for non-native speakers.
5. at least one letter of recommendation, preferably by the Master's thesis supervisor. Note, if preferred this letter of recommendation may be sent directly by the Referee to the contact persons below.

Note: Items 1, 2, 3 and 4 (and optionally 5) should be emailed as a single PDF file (<10 Mb) to the Recruitment Committee @ inpharma.network@gmail.com, with 'PhD application InPharma-network' in the subject line.

The originally extended deadline is end of Febr. but later full applications can be also sent directly to martin.kuentz@fhnw.ch **till 18th March at the latest**.

Applicants **will only be notified if they have been shortlisted for interview** by an InPharma recruitment committee. The selected candidates after interview will be expected to start their research as quickly as possible (target: May–July 2021).

