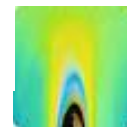


Open PhD Position at the Radiopharmaceutical Laboratory

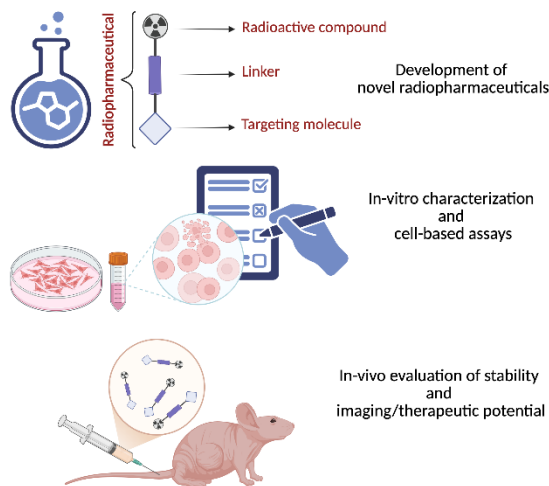


A fully funded PhD position is available in the field of radiopharmaceutical sciences under the supervision of Elisabeth von Guggenberg at the Department of Nuclear Medicine starting from December, 2025.

Project background:

In the radiopharmacy group novel radiolabelled compounds that selectively bind to cancer cell receptors are developed for clinical application in molecular imaging and therapy. This PhD project focuses on peptide analogues targeting the cholecystinin-2 receptor (CCK2R), a G protein-coupled receptor overexpressed in several tumour types, including medullary thyroid carcinoma and small cell lung cancer. Novel radiolabelled minigastrin derivatives for positron emission tomography (PET) will be synthesized and characterized in preclinical studies.

Specific radiolabelling strategies, including radiometal complexation and radiofluorination will be explored. Chemical modifications allowing for pharmacokinetic tuning and optimization of tumour targeting will be investigated. The synthesized compounds will be characterised through HPLC and mass spectrometry and their properties analysed in cell based assays, as well as in vivo biodistribution and small-animal PET imaging studies, with the ultimate goal of selecting a new candidate for clinical translation in PET imaging.



Your profile:

- Master's or diploma degree in Pharmacy, Chemistry, or a related Life Science discipline
- Strong interest in translational research in oncology and molecular imaging
- Experience in organic synthesis, HPLC and mass analysis, and biological assays
- Experience with animal studies, particularly in vivo biodistribution studies
- Self-motivation, teamwork abilities, responsible approach to work
- Excellent communication skills in English (German knowledge is an asset)

We offer:

PhD position funded by the Austrian Science Fund (offering full social security coverage. Compensation will follow the salary guidelines for PhD candidates (75% employment, 30 hours per week) of the FWF and the Medical University of Innsbruck. The successful candidate will be enrolled in the PhD program at the Medical University of Innsbruck ([Image-Guided Diagnosis and Therapy – PhD School for Biomedical Sciences](#)), with the completion and defense of a PhD thesis being a key component of the position. The position provides an engaging scientific environment with opportunities for national and international collaboration, access to cutting-edge facilities and advanced scientific technologies, extensive training programs, and career development support.

How to apply:

Applications are open until **20th of October 2025** and should be sent via email to:

elisabeth.von-guggenberg@i-med.ac.at

Interested candidates should submit the following documents: Letter of motivation (maximum 1 page); CV (maximum 3 pages); academic certificates; names and contact details of two referees, list of publications (if applicable).

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email and invited for an interview (online or in person).