PhD student position available at TILT Biotherapeutics Ltd

A PhD student position is available at TILT Biotherapeutics Ltd, in the field of cancer immunotherapy. TILT has a multidisciplinary team of 9 people working closely with the University of Helsinki Cancer Gene Therapy Group. The company's patented technology involves utilization of oncolytic viruses for enhancement of tumor T-cell therapy. Initial embodiments of the technology will be used to enhance tumor infiltrating lymphocyte (TIL) therapy, checkpoint antibodies and chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy. The company's first clinical trials will start in 2019. TILT Biotherapeutics Ltd is located in Haartman Institute on the Helsinki Academic Medical Campus in Meilahti, Helsinki, Finland. Please see www.tiltbio.com for more information.

The PhD position is open within the context of the recently granted European Industrial Doctorate project STACCATO - European Industrial Doctorate for enhancing upstream biopharmaceutical manufacturing process development through single cell analysis. STACCATO has been specifically designed to strengthen Europe's innovation capacity and leadership in biopharmaceutical manufacturing science by providing world-class intersectoral training to 11 Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and creating and applying pioneering manufacturing process development approaches for biopharmaceuticals. The STACCATO partners are united by the shared vision to utilise high-resolution data captured simultaneously from thousands of single cells to develop new manufacturing methods for biopharmaceuticals.

All recruited researchers will spend at least 18 of their 36 months on the project at industry partners. The multidisciplinary and intersectoral doctoral programme is based on a modular system that addresses the individual needs of the ESRs.

For further information on the project please go to www.staccato-eid.eu

We offer you:

- an opportunity to work in a high quality group at the very cutting edge of cancer research, both nationally and internationally
- a chance to be involved in translational and cross-field science utilizing techniques from genetic engineering, immunology, virology, cell biology, molecular biology, clinical medicine and animal work
- a stimulating research environment on the largest biomedical research campus in Finland, with tight collaborations locally and globally
- a chance for completing a PhD and growing into an independent researcher
- salary for three years

Specific Eligibility Criteria on the H2020 Marie Sklodowska Curie programme:

- At the time of recruitment, the applicants should be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree.
- Mobility rule: At the time of recruitment, applicants should not have resided or carried out main activity (studies, work, etc.) in the country of the host for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to the recruitment date.
- Language skills: Applicants must demonstrate that their ability to understand and express themselves in both written and spoken English is sufficiently high.

Other eligibility criteria:

- MSc degree in biological, biomedical or medical sciences field or in Tech/Engineering.
- high motivation level and work morale
- previous experience with immunology, bioengineering or virology is required.
- skills and training in working with model animals (rodents) is required. The project will involve animal work.

Would count in your favor (not absolute requirements):

- possibility of interviewing at TILT in person (not via Skype)
- experience in laboratory work with viral vectors, biologicals and/or cell therapy products.
- experience and knowledge gained in a CMC/GMP-setting and knowledge in FDA, EMA, and other relevant guidelines.

Complete applications in English should include a CV, certificates, transcripts, a brief statement of research experiences and interests, brief summary of Master's thesis and the contact details of two possible referees, and should be submitted by email as a single pdf-file.

The start time is negotiable, but early 2019 is preferable. Please address your queries and applications recruitment@tiltbio.com, 28.2.2019 at the latest.