

The RCI - Regensburg Center for Interventional Immunology (foundation under public law) is a novel biomedical research center focusing on translational immunology in the fields of cancer immunotherapy, transplant rejection and autoimmunity. The objective of the RCI is to develop effective immune therapeutic strategies in these areas.

The Chair for Genetic Immunotherapy at the RCI, **Prof. Dr. Hinrich Abken**, is recruiting a

**Post-doctoral Fellow in “CAR redirected T cells” (all gender, reference number HA-2020-1)**

with a track record in the field of T cell immunology, with substantial experience working with recombinant immune cell receptors, in particular chimeric antigen receptors (CARs). The position is limited to two years and is remunerated on the TV-L salary scale (TV-L EG 13).

The Chair for Genetic Immunotherapy investigates novel strategies in redirected T cell therapy, specifically CAR and TRUCK redirected cell therapy of tumors and auto-immune diseases. Redirected T cells attack pre-defined target cells and modulate the tissue environment by affecting a variety of immune and non-immune stromal cells. It is also becoming increasingly clear that CAR Treg cells can be used to treat chronic inflammatory and auto-immune diseases. We will focus on novel CAR T cell applications and on next generation CARs integrating signalling pathways by “synthetic immunology”. We offer a post-doctoral position to further develop the concept of CAR/TRUCK cell therapy, to design innovative CAR configurations and to provide novel functions to redirected T cells.<sup>1-3</sup>

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Design and conduct research projects aiming at modulating the interaction of CAR/TRUCK redirected T cells and targeted tissues (*in vitro* and *in vivo*)
- Establishing “synthetic immunology” strategies to provide novel functions to T cells
- Writing scientific manuscripts and own grant applications
- Presenting data on international meetings

Requirement:

We are looking for a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual able to work independently as well as a part of an interdisciplinary team

- PhD or equivalent in life sciences with a strong background in molecular biology and protein engineering
- Experience in experimental immunology, in particular in working with genetically engineered T cells
- Experience with *in vivo* model systems
- Strong record of publications in peer reviewed journals
- Excellent communication skills and proficiency in English are mandatory

We offer:

We offer the opportunity to work on genetically engineered T cells with modified/extended functional capacities for translation into adoptive cell therapy which is one of the most exciting emerging fields in the treatment of cancer, autoimmunity, chronic inflammation and allergy. We provide cutting-edge technologies in T cell immunology, recombinant protein engineering, and immune cell functional recording.

The RCI follows the goal of professional equality for all genders and therefore strongly encourages qualified women to apply. In addition, the RCI supports work-family balance.

The RCI is an equal opportunity employer and candidates with disabilities will be given preference, provided they are equally qualified.

If you are interested and open to new professional challenges, we would be delighted to receive your application including your statement of interest, curriculum vitae, certificates, expected availability date, list of publications and 2-3 references by e-mail to Prof. Dr. Hinrich Abken ([bewerbungen.rci@ukr.de](mailto:bewerbungen.rci@ukr.de)). Application **deadline is September 15th, 2020.**

RCI – Regensburg Center for Interventional Immunology  
Franz-Josef-Strauss-Allee 11  
93053 Regensburg  
Germany

For more information please contact Prof. Dr. Hinrich Abken  
(e-mail: [hinrich.abken@ukr.de](mailto:hinrich.abken@ukr.de); phone: +49 941 944 38111).  
[www.rcii.de](http://www.rcii.de)

**Project related References:**

- 1) Hombach, A.A., Rappl, G., Abken, H., Blocking CD30 on T cells by a dual specific CAR for CD30 and colon cancer antigens improves the CAR T cell response against CD30 negative tumors. *Mol. Ther.* 27, 1825 - 1835 (2019), doi: 10.1016/j.ymthe.2019.06.007.
- 2) Golumba-Nagy, V., Kuehle, J., Hombach, A.A., Abken, H., T cells with CD28- $\square$  CAR resist TGF- $\square$  repression through IL-2 signaling which can be mimicked by an engineered IL-7/IL-2R $\square$  autocrine loop. *Mol. Ther.* 26, 2218 – 2230 (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.ymthe.2018.07.005
- 3) Chmielewski, M., Abken, H., CAR T cells releasing IL-18 convert to T-bet<sup>high</sup> FoxO1<sup>low</sup> effectors which exhibit augmented activity against advanced solid tumors. *Cell Reports* 12, 3205 – 3219 (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2017.11.063