Postdoctoral position (100%) for a gene therapy project on RNA editing

Introduction
The Foundation “Asile des Aveugles” (FAA) is private institute composed, among other, of the Jules-Gonin Eye Hospital and a research center, which is closely linked to Lausanne University (UnIL) and the école polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). Ideally situated along the Leman lake, near Lausanne’s city center, its campus brings together over 120 nationalities.
As an employer, FAA encourages excellence, individual recognition and responsibility.

Presentation
Inherited retinal degenerations (IRDs) encompass a large number of untreatable genetic disorders leading to blindness. The great majority of these diseases are due to point mutation. In collaboration with four teams, we are developing an innovative approach to correct mutations at the RNA level. We generated tools able to recruit the endogenous cell machinery to edit RNA at specific sequences. This approach has the great advantage to prevent irreversible off-target effects. In addition, the therapeutic approach is applicable to all gene sizes. In our lab, we are using AAV vectors to transfer these tools and to evaluate the efficacy to modify the disease course in different rodent models of IRDs. Our approach will also be challenged in human retinal organoids bearing IRD mutation.

Your qualifications
- Expertise in molecular and cell biology is required to evaluate gene transfer action and efficacy
- Skills in in vivo experimentation
- Strong skills in writing, organization and communication are essential, along with the ability to work collaboratively as a team, conceive and troubleshoot experiments and meet project deadlines
- Flexible, adaptable, multi-skilled, solutions oriented
- Self-sufficient, self-reflective capacities, conscientiousness, able to work under pressure and to assess the risks
- Listening skills and be able to give feedbacks
- Fluency in English (oral and written) and ideally in French

Job information
Expected start date: as soon as possible
Contract length: 1 year (renewable)
Activity rate: 100%
Workplace: City of Lausanne, research center FAA
Funding agencies: a five-year project founding is supported by the Foundation Fighting Blindness; USA

What the position offers you
A nice, multicultural, diverse, dynamic and equal opportunity working environment, with a variety of opportunities for professional training.

Contact for further information
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To apply for this position, please send the following documents:
1. A cover letter outlining your relevant work experience and research interests.
2. A comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV) detailing your academic qualifications, professional experience, and research accomplishments. Please include a list of your publications, including any conference presentations or patents, if applicable.
3. Contact information for three referees who can provide insights into your qualifications and research capabilities.

Deadline: 06.11.2023

Only applications online will be taken into account, https://emploi.ophtalmique.ch