Postdoc position on transcriptomics of mosquito-virus interactions at Institut Pasteur, Paris

A 2-year postdoctoral position to explore the natural transcriptomic response of mosquito vectors to infection by dengue viruses is available in the Insects & Infectious Diseases Unit at Institut Pasteur in Paris, starting as soon as January 2013.

The goal of the project is to use massively parallel transcriptome sequencing (RNA-seq) to identify and characterize genes involved in the vector competence of field-derived Aedes aegypti mosquitoes for low-passage dengue virus isolates. It will consist of identification of candidates genes by genome-wide transcriptomic analysis followed by functional validation using gene-silencing experiments in vivo.

The project relies on a tight collaboration between the research groups of Dr. Louis Lambrechts (Insects & Infectious Diseases) and Dr. Carla Saleh (Viruses & RNA interference). The successful candidate will interact with both teams and be in charge of (1) statistical analysis of read counts data; (2) quantitative RT-PCR validation of gene expression data; (3) vector competence and gene silencing assays in vivo. The position requires an independent, highly motivated, creative, and scientifically curious individual. We are looking for a team player with excellent communication skills and an international outlook.

Applicants must have demonstrated expertise in the handling and statistical analysis of genome-wide transcriptomic data, and a strong background in molecular biology. Additional experience in virology and/or entomology is desirable but not essential. Particularly encouraged are applicants with prior experience in Illumina RNA-seq. Net salary will be ~24k€/year including health benefits. Candidates must hold a PhD in a relevant scientific field. Knowledge of the French language is not required. There is no age or nationality restriction.

Formal applications should include: a cover letter (in English) indicating research interests, your CV including a summary of previous research, and two letters of reference. Applications and informal enquiries must be submitted by email to: louis.lambrechts@pasteur.fr and carla.saleh@pasteur.fr

Information on the current activities of the labs can be found at: http://www.salehlab.eu/ and http://louis.lambrechts.free.fr/