

MAX VON PETTENKOFER-INSTITUT LEHRSTUHL VIROLOGIE



Open Master Thesis position

We have an open position for a master thesis in my lab starting in the **fall of 2023**. The general focus of the lab is on innate immunity against retroviruses and lentiviral Vpx-based treatment improvements against acute myeloid leukemia (AML). We recently identified SAMHD1, a restriction factor against HIV (Baldauf *et al.*, Nature Medicine 2012, doi: 10.1038/nm.2964), as a novel biomarker for poor cytarabine response in AML patients (see Figure 1; Schneider, Oellerich, Baldauf *et al.*, Nature Medicine 2017, doi: 10.1038/nm.4255; Nair *et al.*, Leukemia 2021, doi: 10.1038/s41375-020-01069-1; Rothenburger *et al.*, J Exp Clin Cancer Res. 2021, doi: 10.1186/s13046-021-02093-4).

Based on our recent publications, we want to generate and characterize novel virus-like particles (VLPs) for the successful delivery of Vpx into AML cells.

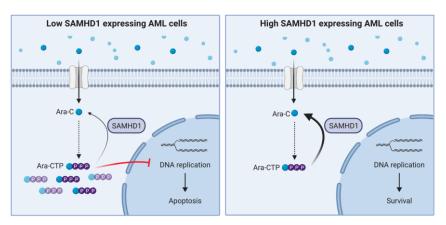


Figure 1: Influence of SAMHD1 on Ara-C cytotoxicity in AML cells. Based on Schneider, Oellerich, Baldauf et al., Nature Medicine 2017.

The Master thesis can also be combined with a Virology practical course. Interested candidates should send a letter of motivation including CV to baldauf@mvp.lmu.de by 15.09.2023.