



## Job Vacancy

The University Hospital Essen offers first class medical services in the Ruhr metropolis. Every year, 225.000 patients are treated in 30 clinics, 27 institutes and specialized centers. The over 8.000 employees offer medical care with state-of-the art diagnostics and therapies, which meet highest international standards. Patient care is connected with basic and translational research at an internationally competitive level.

### Research Associate (Phd student) (m/f/d)

(pay grade: EG 13 TV-L)

**Work Area:** Department of Neurology

**Job ID:** 11121

**Start Date:** next possible date

**Work Scope:** part-time / 28,875 h

**Contract Type:** temporary

**Contract duration:** 36 Month; in accordance with § 2 (2) WissZeitVG for the duration of the project

#### Your tasks:

You will work on a research project funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). It is well established that the cerebellum contributes to cognitive, behavioral, emotional and social functions. Dysfunction of the cerebellum is also likely to play a role in a variety of mental disorders such as addiction and chronic pain. Our study aims to provide initial answers as to how exactly the cerebellum supports non-motor functions and how cerebellar dysfunction might contribute to common mental disorders. The primary aim of the project is to show that the cerebellum contributes to reinforcement learning in humans via its connection to the ventral tegmental area (VTA). The VTA plays a central role in addiction, but is also involved in avoidance behavior in chronic pain.

The focus of your work is on functional MRI examinations on a 7T MRI scanner in healthy participants. The 7T fMRI study will be carried out at the Erwin L. Hahn Institute for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (ELH). If the 7T fMRI study in healthy participants is successful, initial behavioral studies will be conducted in patients with non-substance related addictive behaviors (i.e. behavioral addictions) and chronic back pain.

The DFG project is a collaboration between Prof. Dr. Dagmar Timmann (Experimental Neurology, University Medicine Essen (UME)), Prof. Dr. Ulrike Bingel (Clinical Neurosciences, UME) and Prof. Dr. Matthias Brand (Center for Behavioral Addiction Research (CeBAR) at the UME), all three of whom are Principal Investigators at the ELH. Admission to the interdisciplinary graduate program BIOME at the UME is possible and strongly encouraged.

#### Your profile:

- Diploma or Master's degree in a natural science (e.g. physics, computer science or similar) or in neuroscience



- Very good programming and computer skills (Matlab, Python or similar)
- Good statistical knowledge and experience in the evaluation of structural and functional cranial MRI examinations are a plus

#### Look forward to:

- Admission to the interdisciplinary graduate program BIOME at the UME is possible and strongly encouraged
- A **secure job** in the public service of the state of NRW
- **Fair payment** in accordance with the collective wage agreement (TV-L) incl. annual bonus payment and supplementary company pension scheme
- **30 days of vacation** per calendar year (for a full-time position)
- **Interdisciplinary work** with colleagues from other departments
- Working with **modern equipment** and certified quality standards
- **Family-friendly corporate culture**, e.g. company daycare center, vacation program for school-age children, advice and support from the Employee Service Office in all life situations
- **Wide range of training and continuing education opportunities**, e.g. at the Training Academy of UK Essen
- **Health Management**, e.g. company integration management, vaccinations, promotion of sports activities
- **Attractive fringe benefits**, e.g. reduced-price canteen meals, community events, accommodation in student residences

#### General conditions:

- The pay grade classification depends on the personal and collective legal prerequisites.
- The University Hospital Essen is an equal opportunity employer. Female scientists are particularly encouraged to apply.
- The participation in secondary employment depends on the „Hochschulnebenberufungsverordnung“ of North-Rhine Westphalia.
- Disabled applicants will be preferentially considered in case of equivalent qualification.
- The position is also available as part-time employment.”

#### Contact person and further information about the position:

Prof. Dagmar Timmann, +49 201 723 2180, dagmar.timmann-braun@uk-essen.de

You will find detailed information on the job advertisement and contact persons behind the button - Apply now:

<https://bewerbung-karriere.ume.de/Vacancies/11121/Application/CheckLogin/1>

We use your data exclusively for application purposes in accordance with the applicable data protection regulations. Further information can be found in the privacy statement on our homepage at: [www.uk-essen.de](http://www.uk-essen.de).