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POSTDOC POSITION AVAILABLE

Team : Olivier Micheau : Death Receptor and Cancer
LNC Lipides, Nutrition, Cancer
UMR866 INSERM Dijon

Role of sphingolipids in Death receptor-mediated cell motility

TRAIL belong to the TNF (Tumor Necrosis Factor) superfamily and binds DR4 and DR5, respectively. In contrast to its ubiquitously expressed receptors TRAIL exhibits a restricted expression pattern, being mainly found at the surface of neutrophils, activated T lymphocytes and NK (Natural Killer) cells where it contributes to the elimination of transformed and infected cells. Cathepsins can cleave TRAIL leading to its release in the bloodstream. Elevated concentrations of soluble TRAIL have been found in various chronic inflammatory disorders as well as in cancers and have been associated with a poor prognosis. Like FasL, TRAIL is able in certain circumstances to induce migration, a process which in the case of FasL is associated with the formation of a non canonical molecular platform MISC for Motility Inducing Signaling Complex (Tauzin et al. PLoS Biol 2011). Activation of this process is associated with generation of sphingolipids including ceramide, which are instrumental for CD95-mediated pro-migratory signaling (Edmond et al. Oncogene 2014). The project of the successful candidate will be to decipher the molecular mechanism underlying TRAIL pro-migratory signalling.

We welcome applications from highly motivated individuals with expertise in molecular and cellular biology.

Funding for a post-doc position by the INCa (Institut National de la Recherche sur le Cancer) is available for 30 months starting February 2015

To apply, please send your curriculum Vitae, a letter of research interests and the names and contacts of 2 or 3 references to olivier.micheau@inserm.fr