The UCL recruits a Postdoctoral researcher

For a joint position in the laboratory of Pediatric Hepatology and Cell Therapy (Prof. SOKAL; PEDI-IREC) and the laboratory of Advanced Drug Delivery and Biomaterials (Prof. des Rieux, ADDB-LDRI) on the medical campus of the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL).

The successful candidate will engage in an inter-university research project aiming to develop a novel generation of liver cell therapy products.

Expected start date: February 2018.

Duties and responsibilities:
- Engage in fieldwork and independently plan, design and conduct research experiments to:
  - Purify, expand and characterize different cell types from human liver tissue
  - Optimize co-cultures of human liver cells on biodegradable microcarriers
  - Characterize the cell-coated microcarriers and assess their therapeutic potential
- Assist the principal investigators in establishing priorities to ensure efficient work progression
- Liaison with other UCL departments and outside project collaborators (genomics and proteomics) to ensure success of project
- Write publications and reports. Regularly present project results at internal and external meetings
- Supervise/train students and technicians
- Contribute to everyday laboratory tasks and duties
- Contribute to the rotating “On-Call” system for reception and processing of human liver tissue (evenings, weekends and holidays)

Qualifications:
- PhD in Pharmaceutical, Biomedical Sciences, Biology or equivalent by the time of appointment, with maximum 2 years of postdoc experience.
- Knowledge and prior experience in mesenchymal stem cell biology and/or 3D cell culture models using microcarriers and/or (bio)scaffolds
- Autonomous with strong interpersonal skills
- Results oriented
- Strong organizational and project management skills
- Skills in leading, coordinating and/or supervising the work of others
- The ability to work effectively with people of technically diverse backgrounds
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Strong command of English is mandatory. Good command of French is a plus.

We offer:
- A full-time contract of fixed duration (1 year, renewable 1 year) with a competitive salary package
- The opportunity to work in a stimulating environment, in two highly distinguished research teams
- The opportunity to work in a translational project that should have a clinical medium term impact and could ultimately benefit pediatric patients.

Contact:
If you fit the profile description, send your CV and motivation letter to: Adil El Taghdouini (a.eltaghdouini@uclouvain.be).