



**PhD Studentship – University Bordeaux**  
**Chemical Biology & Medicinal Chemistry**  
**Univ Bordeaux-CNRS, CBMN**  
**Institut Européen de Chimie et Biologie, Bordeaux, France**

Applications are invited for a **fully-funded 3 year PhD studentship** starting in October/November 2020 to work in the Guichard group at the University of Bordeaux in France (CBMN, UMR 5248, Institut Européen de Chimie et Biologie, Pessac).

This PhD will involve research in the fields of **chemical biology and medicinal chemistry** and more specifically will focus on the development of a chemical knockdown approach to inhibit protein activation by the convertases in malignancies. Proprotein convertases (PCs) are proteases involved in the proteolytic processing of multiple precursor proteins. There is growing evidence of the involvement of some of these proteases in various processes involved in tumor progression and metastases, suggesting the potential interest of chemical inhibitors designed to block these enzymes. The main objective of this project is to develop new chemical biology tools to further explore the role of these convertases and demonstrate their therapeutic potential in cancers. The first specific objective will combine peptidomimetic chemistry to develop new convertase inhibitors with improved pharmacological properties. The project will explore a targeted degradation strategy to study the effects of reducing cellular levels of convertases in cancer cells. This approach could also prove to be interesting from a therapeutic point of view.

The project involves a close collaboration with the Khatib group from the Angiogenesis and Cancer Microenvironment Laboratory (INSERM U1029) in Bordeaux. The position is funded by the Interdisciplinary Doctorate Program 2020 from the Univ. Bordeaux aimed at developing interdisciplinarity between the different research fields of the University.

We are seeking a highly motivated and talented PhD candidate with Pharmaceutical/Science curriculum and/or a strong background in synthetic chemistry and chemical biology (e.g. master in molecular chemistry or master in drug design), and a strong interest in interdisciplinary research as well as excellent written and oral communication skills. Applicants with excellent track records will be given priority.

IECB (<http://www.iecb.u-bordeaux.fr/>) is a dynamic interdisciplinary research center with technology platforms bringing the state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation and expertise in structural biology and preparative and analytical techniques.

**Contact**

Candidates interested should apply as soon as possible and no later than May 22<sup>th</sup> by sending their CV and academic transcript to :  
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