**Location:** Institute of Human Genetics, University Clinics Leipzig and Pediatric Research Center, University Hospital for Children and Adolescents, Leipzig University

**Starting date:** July 2021

**Project:** We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student for a 3.5-year position.

The project has a long-term goal of understanding lipid accumulation mechanisms, which can be transferred to obesity therapies. We are employing a multidisciplinary approach at the crossroads of bioinformatics and molecular biology to investigate lipid accumulation and adipose tissue redistribution using lipoma as model.

By analyzing exomes and differential gene expression of human spontaneous lipoma vs. matched normal subcutaneous adipose tissue we intend to identify genetic networks that are involved in lipid accumulation and can be pharmacologically targeted. To molecularly investigate lipid accumulation we make use of patient-derived lipoma cell cultures and a conditional knock-out mouse model, which develops lipomas.

**Collaboration Partners:** The project offers stimulating interactions and training opportunities including the Rudolf Schönheimer Institute of Biochemistry (Faculty of Medicine), the Max Planck Institute of Evolutionary Anthropology and other members of the DFG-funded CRC 1052 (https://www.sfb1052.de/home.html).

**Profile of candidate’s qualifications:** If you are highly motivated, have a MSc in a life science subject or bioinformatics, are interested in both bioinformatics and molecular biology, and willing to work on a project with a high translational potential to therapy, this position is right for you. Programming experience in R, python, and C++, as well as working in Linux environment will be of high benefit. Prior experience in wet lab is not a prerequisite, but interest in the field is highly desired.

**Our offer:**
- a supportive and international working environment
- access to cutting edge transcriptomics, genomics, computing, and research facilities
- the chance to pursue fundamental research of medical relevance
- enrollment and graduation within the CRC 1052 Obesity Mechanisms Graduate Programme

Interested? Please send your CV and two references to diana.leduc@eva.mpg.de or antje.garten@medizin.uni-leipzig.de.

Leipzig, May 26th 2021