

## **PhD-student in MS research**

**Come and join the stimulating environment of our leading MS Center Amsterdam**

**Project title:** Halting neurodegeneration in MS: taking control of the neurovasculature.

### **Your work environment**

The MS Center Amsterdam of the VU university medical center is a multidisciplinary center for research in multiple sclerosis (MS) with an excellent international reputation. Within the center more than 60 researchers of different disciplines cooperate in research to the cause and cure of MS and is a proven reliable source of scientific information about MS. The combination of fundamental/basic and clinical research allows us to quickly apply new research developments in diagnostics and treatment of MS. The MS Center Amsterdam offers young talented researchers an education in the neuroscience of MS from experts with an international reputation.

The program grant of which this vacancy is part of is a center width project concerning neurodegeneration and neuroprotection of MS. This prestigious grant is provided by the Dutch MS Research Foundation. This PhD-student will participate in an enthusiastic team for finding new strategies to treat MS.

### **Your job**

You will be appointed as a PhD student within the Department of Molecular Cell Biology and Immunology. The Department houses various research groups. The research group 'Blood-brain barrier' has as focus to investigate how altered function of the vasculature of the brain is causal for neurological disorders, including MS. In MS, the occurrence of neurodegeneration may be caused by a failure of the blood vessels in the brain that normally protect the neurons. Within this PhD student project we aim to investigate whether altered neurovascular function leads to neurodegeneration and we aim to identify new ways to improve vascular function to come to novel neuroprotective strategies. For this we make use of a wide range of molecular and cell biological techniques. Importantly, we will verify our findings through animal studies. Besides the practical work in the lab, you are responsible for data analysis and writing research papers. You will closely collaborate with other researchers within the MS Center. A PhD thesis will be the result of your 4 years study

### **Your experience en qualifications**

You have a master's degree in medical biology (or related study) with specific interest in neurobiology. You have experience with molecular and cell biological techniques and preferably hold article 9 certificate. You are a motivated and creative student with excellent communication skills and a team player.

### **Employment conditions**

The project provides for a temporary full-time (36 hrs/week) position up to 4 years. The salary and other benefits are according to those of the 'promovendus'- scale of the Dutch Collective labour Agreement for Academic Hospitals (CAO-UMC).

### **Interested?**

Would you like more information about the position, please contact dr Arie Reijerkerk ([a.reijerkerk@vumc.nl](mailto:a.reijerkerk@vumc.nl)) or dr Elga de Vries ([he.devries@vumc.nl](mailto:he.devries@vumc.nl)) . Applications should include a CV and suggested references and can be e-mailed to [he.devries@vumc.nl](mailto:he.devries@vumc.nl).