Tenure track position for research on cardiac genetics

Keywords: cardiomyopathy, congenital heart defects, arrythmias

Function: Tenure track position at the Maastricht University Medical Center (MUMC+), Department of Clinical Genetics, and Cardiovascular Research Institute Maastricht (CARIM)

Background
The Department of Clinical Genetics has > 100 staff in an outpatient clinic, laboratories for genomics diagnostics and metabolic diseases which together provide state of the art services for patients with genetic disease. For more information about research lines within Clinical Genetics see http://gcb.mumc.nl/research-clinical-genetics. The department is strengthening its molecular research on cardiac diseases. We have recently started a project in collaboration with the department of cardiology and Prof S. Heymans, cardiologist who is an international expert in the field of dilated cardiomyopathy.

The department has a vacancy for an enthusiastic and ambitious postdoc who can make a major contribution to the new research line with important implications for the genetics of cardiac diseases. We are looking for an excellent, and competitive researcher at the post-doctoral level.

Project
In non-ischaemic, non-valvular dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) presenting at adulthood, mutations in genes, like sarcomere genes, are currently identified. In addition, viral infections have been demonstrated as possible cause for DCM. The aim of the project is to discover novel genetic causes for DCM, focussing on genes involved in cardiac (embryonic) development and immune response genes. A large cohort of DCM patients have already been examined for a range of genetic and nongenetic risk factors. This provides a unique opportunity to study gene-environment interactions.

Job offer
Funding is available for a 3-year research position according to the terms of employment of Maastricht University. Following a positive evaluation, extension into a tenure track position is possible.

Requirements
- A PhD degree in molecular biology and/or genetics
- Strong background in gene identification, gene regulation, signal transduction pathways and/or immunogenetics
- Hands-on experience with Next Generation Sequencing, gene-expression studies, bioinformatics and immunohistochemistry
- Highly motivated to write grant proposals and perform cutting-edge research and to build a research line as a group leader.
- Good communication and strong social skills, ability to work in an interdisciplinary team

Application and information
For further information about this vacancy, please contact: Prof. Han Brunner (Han.brunner@mumc.nl)

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and motivation letter and be sent electronically-before March 1st 2015 to Han.brunner@mumc.nl