Tenure track position for research on improving prenatal genetic care

**Keywords:** Non-invasive genetic diagnosis, carrier testing, prenatal genetic diagnosis, in vitro fertilization, next generation sequencing.

**Function:** Tenure track position at the Department of Clinical Genetics of Maastricht University Medical Center (MUMC+), and GROW School for Oncology and Developmental Biology

**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 MUMC+ is the only lab in the Netherlands that is accredited for preimplantation genetic diagnosis and one of the largest in Europe with 300+ procedures annually. For this project, the department works in close collaboration with the research groups of dr. Alex Hoischen in Nijmegen and Prof. Joris Vermeesch in Leuven.

The department has a vacancy for an enthusiastic and ambitious postdoc who can make a major contribution to a new research line that will innovate prenatal and preimplantation care for genetic diseases. We are looking for an excellent, highly competitive researcher at the post-doctoral level.

**Project**
Novel genomic approaches using next-generation sequencing at the single cell level are rapidly changing our capabilities to provide couples with information about the risks to conceive a child with a genetic disease, during or even before pregnancy. These approaches will improve the outcome of IVF and PGD procedures. The aim of this project is to develop and implement novel genomic approaches in the wide range of prenatal care.

**Job offer**
Candidate would start as a postdoctoral fellow for a 3-year research position according to the terms of employment of Maastricht University. Following a positive evaluation of this novel research program, extension into a tenure track (assistant professor) position is possible.

**Requirements**
- A PhD degree in molecular biology and/or genetics
- Strong background in genomics
- Hands-on experience with Next Generation Sequencing
- Knowledge of bioinformatics is an advantage
- Knowledge of prenatal care is an advantage
- Highly motivated to write grant proposals and perform cutting-edge research
- Ambition to develop an independent research line over the next 3-5 years
- 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. Joris Veltman (joris.veltman@mumc.nl).
Applications should include a curriculum vitae and motivation letter and be sent electronically-before March 1st 2015 to Joris.veltman@mumc.nl