Postdoctoral Research position on bacteriophage-gut interactions in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

A 2-year postdoctoral position is available in the “Microbiota, Intestine & Inflammation” laboratory, at the Saint-Antoine Research Centre (Sorbonne University, Paris, France). The position is funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR).

**Job description:** The successful candidate will work on the interactions between bacteriophages, the intestinal mucosa and the epithelial barrier function in acute and chronic inflammatory conditions. In Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), bacteriophages of the gut microbiota are more numerous and different compared to healthy individuals, but few studies have yet characterised the role of these populations in the context of the physiopathology of IBD. This project will take up this challenge and will involve the study of bacteriophages in the intestinal mucosa by integrating approaches using cultures of immune cells and epithelial cells, murine models, and *ex vivo* samples from IBD patients.

**About the team:** The laboratory is based in central Paris, at the Saint-Antoine Research Centre which is part of the Medical School of Sorbonne University and the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM). The work is supervised by Dr Luisa De Sordi and Prof Sophie Thenet, respectively coordinating the “Phage group” and the “Intestinal barrier group” of the “Microbiota, Intestine and Inflammation” team, an interdisciplinary environment counting more than 40 scientists including researchers, MDs, post-docs, postgraduates, and technicians. The laboratory offers state of the art facilities and tools for the study of cell biology and microbiology and access to the largest cohort of characterised IBD patients in France. The team is also member of the “Paris Center for Microbiome Medicine”, a large consortium of 52 collaborative partners in microbiome research.

**Profile and application:** Applicants should hold a Ph.D. in biology. We welcome applications from candidates with a background in cell biology or microbiology. Previous experience in host-microbe interactions, cell culture, bacteriophage biology and animal models will be appreciated. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a description of their research interests and the contact details of at least two referees to Luisa De Sordi (luisa.de_sordi@sorbonne-universite.fr) and Sophie Thenet (sophie.thenet@ephe.psl.eu).

**Starting date:** Spring 2022