Announcements[1]

Resources for Neurogenetics Research

NINDS Human Genetics Resource Center.—The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) is committed to gene discovery as a strategy for identifying the genetic causes and correlates of nervous system disorders. The NINDS Human Genetics Resource Center (http://ccr.coriell.org/ninds/) at the Coriell Institute for Medical Research is a repository of DNA samples, immortalized cell lines, and accompanying clinical data for a set of disorders (including stroke, Parkinson disease, epilepsy, and motor neuron disease). The resources include cell lines and DNA derived from affected and unaffected blood relatives, spousal controls, and other normal healthy individuals. Data for each disease are collected using standardized instruments and are defined in clinical diagnostic elements (CDEs), which are based on published diagnostic criteria for these disorders. For example, the CDEs for Parkinson disease were designed to reflect the widely utilized London Brain Bank Criteria in a format designed for easy use in the clinic or field. To date, the repository has >600 samples available, including samples from >300 individuals with Parkinson disease and 95 unaffected blood relatives, as well as samples from 22 individuals with epilepsy and 13 unaffected blood relatives. Additionally, there are >150 samples from controls for whom family and medical histories and mental-status and neurological-examination data are available. The cell lines and DNA derived from them are available to all qualified investigators. Information about ordering cell lines and DNA samples can be obtained from the NINDS Cell and DNA Repository Catalog Web site (http://ccr.coriell.org/ninds/comm/order/order.html). Further information can be obtained from Jeanne C. Beck, Ph.D., Coriell Institute for Medical Research, Coriell Cell Repositories, 403 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103; telephone: (800) 752-3805; e-mail: jbeck@umdnj.edu

---

Call for Proposals

Angelman Syndrome Foundation Call for Proposals.—The Angelman Syndrome Foundation announces the availability of $200,000 to be awarded in support of research on Angelman syndrome. Angelman syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disorder caused by a deficiency of the ubiquitin protein ligase UBE3A in the brain. Applications related to any area of research involving Angelman syndrome will be considered; the highest priority will be given to pilot projects to test new ideas about the pathogenesis of and the therapy for Angelman syndrome. Researchers from all countries are encouraged to apply. One-year grants will be awarded for amounts of up to $80,000. The application should include the following: a one-page summary; a proposal of up to five pages, including hypothesis, background, methods, and significance of the proposed research; a one-page detailed budget; and a curriculum vitae of the applicant. No indirect costs will be allowed. Proposals involving human or animal subjects must be approved by institutional review boards before funding is released. The application deadline is January 15, 2005. Applications should be submitted to the Angelman Syndrome Foundation, 3015 East New York Street, Suite A2265, Aurora, IL 60504. Questions about this announcement should be directed to Joseph Wagstaff, M.D., Ph.D.; telephone: (704) 355-6091; e-mail: joseph.wagstaff@carolinashealthcare.org

---

Employment Opportunities

Combined Residency in Internal Medicine and Medical Genetics.—The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine offers a combined, 5-year residency leading to

1. Announcements are published free of charge for members of The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG). Please e-mail announcements to ajhg@emory.edu. Submission must be received *at least 7 weeks* before the month of issue in which publication is requested. They must be double spaced with a $1\frac{1}{2}$-inch margin on all sides. The maximum length is *250 words,* excluding the address for correspondence. Please include a cover letter indicating the name of the sponsoring ASHG member.

eligibility for certification by both the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Medical Genetics (in clinical genetics). The training in internal medicine occurs at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP), and the training in medical genetics occurs as a joint HUP–Children's Hospital of Philadelphia genetics residency. Medical students from U.S. medical schools and students from foreign medical schools who possess H1 or J1 American visas are encouraged to apply. Additional information is available online (http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/medicine/Medicine/Applicants/med_genetics.htm). To discuss this opportunity, contact the office of the program director, Reed E. Pyeritz, M.D., Ph.D., Maloney 538, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, 3400 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; e-mail: medgenclinic@uphs.upenn.edu

---

Pharmacogenetics Investigator.—The Human Genetics Group at Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) is focused on applying genetic approaches across different disease areas—including cardiovascular, metabolic, and psychiatric diseases—for the purpose of identifying novel drug targets and markers that predict response to new therapeutic drugs. We seek a pharmacogenetics investigator who will be responsible for performing genetic studies with the use of samples either from BMS clinical trials or provided by collaborators (academic and biotech). The ideal candidate will have a broad background in human genetics, with an interest in pharmacogenetics, and the ability to critically evaluate genetic association studies. Qualifications include a Ph.D. (or the equivalent) in genetics, epidemiology, or a related area, with experience in generating and analyzing human genetic data. Experience with genetic linkage/association studies that use SNPs is desirable, as is familiarity with statistical packages. Strong oral and written communication skills are required, since the pharmacogenetics investigator will be expected to interact with researchers in diverse departments, including the drug discovery, bioinformatics, biostatistics, and clinical departments. Salary is commensurate with experience. Interested candidates should write to Koustubh Ranade, Ph.D., Pharmaceutical Research Institute, P.O. Box 5400, Princeton, NJ 08543-5400. E-mail: koustubh.ranade@bms.com

---

Postdoctoral Position in Genetics of Multifactorial Diseases.—A full-time postdoctoral position—involving a functional genomic approach for the study of type 2 diabetes and obesity—is available for 27 months, from December 1, 2004, to February 28, 2007, in Lille, France, as part of the obesity team of the Genetics of Multifactorial Diseases Laboratory in the Department of Human Genetics of the Institut de Biologie de Lille (CNRS UMR 8090) (director of the unit: Professor Philippe Froguel). The project involves a functional genomic approach for studying genes from cannabinoid signaling, as well as functional studies to validate SNPs involved in the modulation of food intake and/or gluco-lipidic metabolism. Responsibilities include the functional analysis of SNPs (studying their effects on promoter activity, mRNA stability, and alternative splicing, as well as examining coding mutations, mutagenesis, and expression in cellular lines) and the application of siRNA and microarrays. The individual selected will also be responsible for the setup of microarray technology. Candidates should have excellent experience in molecular biology, as well as in RNA and microarray technologies. Experience with animal models would be appreciated. Requirements include a Ph.D. in the biological sciences and at least 3 years in a postdoctoral position in the field of genetics of multifactorial diseases. Applications will be reviewed from October 2004 until a suitable candidate is identified. Interviews may begin in late October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of intent, a summary of previous research experience, a curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to Philippe Boutin (post-doc@mail-good.pasteur-lille).

Postdoctoral Position in Genetics of Multifactorial Diseases.—A full-time postdoctoral position—involving a functional genomic approach for the study of type 2 diabetes and obesity—is available for 27 months, from December 1, 2004, to February 28, 2007, in Lille, France, as part of the obesity team of the Genetics of Multifactorial Diseases Laboratory in the Department of Human Genetics of the Institut de Biologie de Lille (CNRS UMR 8090) (director of the unit: Professor Philippe Froguel). The project involves genetic epidemiology studies of genes involved in cannabinoid signaling, examination of their contribution to genetic risk for diabetes and obesity, and investigation of their interaction with pathways regulated by CART, ACRP30/adiponectin, and ghrelin. Responsibilities include (1) supervision of candidate-gene (biological and positional) analysis, SNP mapping, protocol setup, selection of methodology, and functional analysis of SNPs; (2) performance of case/control and familial studies, haplotype studies, transmission/disequilibrium tests, quantitative-trait studies, and gene-gene interaction studies; and (3) further development of an existing database of food-intake parameters. Candidates should have very good experience with sequencing and genotyping technologies, as well as with biostatistical analysis for multifactorial diseases; a knowledge of the physiology of food intake is advantageous. Applicants should be able to interact with the biostatistics team to improve analysis tools. Requirements include a Ph.D. in the biological sciences and at

least 3 years in a postdoctoral position in the field of genetics of multifactorial diseases. Applications will be reviewed from October 2004 until a suitable candidate is identified. Interviews may begin in late October. Interested applicants should submit a letter of intent, a summary of previous research experience, a curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to Philippe Boutin (post-doc@mail-good.pasteur-lille).