



Call for 1 PhD fellowship (DC6)

A training network on the design of precision therapeutics that target key glycan motifs implicated in cancer

GlyCanDrug is a glycoscience-oriented European Training Network funded in the framework of HORIZON Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN). Within GlyCanDrug, Doctoral Candidates (DCs) will be equipped with a thorough multifaceted knowledge of the potential of glycoscience in the discovery of cancer precision therapeutics and the necessary transferable skills. GlyCanDrug will provide an international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary educational program, according with the EU Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training. This will put DCs in an advantageous position for job opportunities in both academia and industry.

DC6 PROJECT TITLE. Assay development and activity screening of inhibitors of sialyl and fucosyltransferases.

Host Institution: Department of Chemistry, Technical University of Denmark.
<https://www.kemi.dtu.dk/english/>

Duration: 36 months, starting between January 2024-November 2024.

Supervisor: Prof. Mads H. Clausen. www.kemi.dtu.dk/mhc

Co-supervisor: Erdmann Rapp (Glyxera, DE), Faranak Nami (DTU, DK); *Progress Committee Members:* Mads H. Clausen, Erdmann Rapp, Marco Marradi (UNIFI, IT).

DC6 PROJECT. This PhD project will focus on the identification of small molecule inhibitors of sialyl and fucosyltransferases. The DC will be trained in assay development, miniaturization and automation for high-throughput screening (HTS). An important research goal will be to design and execute an HTS campaign to identify novel putative inhibitors of glycosyl transferases. The DC will also characterize known and new transferase inhibitors using fluorescent polarization (FP) assays.

PLANNED SECONDMENTS. 1) UNIFI (Academia, IT), learning techniques for synthesis of labeled fucosyl donors. 2) GlyXera (Industry, DE), training on high throughput glycoanalysis.

PhD School enrolment: Chemistry at the Technical University of Denmark
(<https://www.kemi.dtu.dk/english/education/phdstudy>)

APPLICATION PROCEDURE. The position is open to candidates of any nationality, as long as they fulfil the requirements set for the DCs funded by MSCA (**Annex A**). The applicant must send the documents in the **Annex A** to the email specified (glycandrug@chim.unifi.it) within **1st January 2024**, clearly indicating in the subject "*Application for DC6 position*".

The salary of the DCs will be paid according to the MSCA rules. See: <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/calls/msca-doctoral-networks-2022>

CANDIDATE PROFILE.

- 5-years degree (Master) in Chemistry or related fields.
- Practical experience in organic chemistry and biophysical techniques.
- Good level of English proficiency (understood, spoken and written).
- Team spirit and proactive attitude.

Information also available at: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>