

# Inducible CRISPR Gene Editing System to Target Common USH2A Mutations in Patients with Usher Syndrome and Retinitis Pigmentosa

## **Project description**

Mutations in USH2A are one of the most common causes of Usher syndrome and Retinitis pigmentosa for which no cure exists so far. The project seeks to develop and validate a novel CRISPR technology based therapeutic approach targeting common mutations in the USH2A gene and to explore strategies for an inducible (switch-on/switch-off) transgene expression system implemented into an adenoviral-associated viral (AAV) vector for delivery into preclinical model systems.

#### **Keywords**

CRISPR, gene editing, AAV, inherited retinal dystrophy, Usher syndrome.

# **Entry requirements**

- MSc degree in Molecular Life Science studies
- Research Experience in Molecular Biology preferentially in gene therapy technologies (i.e. CRISPR/Cas, antisense-oligonucleotides, and/or AAV delivery systems)
- Proficient language skills in English (C1); proficiency in German language desirable

#### Location

Centre for Ophthalmology, University Hospitals Tübingen Elfriede-Aulhorn-Strasse 7, D-72076 Tübingen, Germany

#### Starting date

August 01, 2024

#### **Funding**

Four years of funding (3+1, three years with the possibility to extend for one year)

# How to apply

Please apply via the HFA application portal.

The Hector Fellows will arrange interviews (via skype or if feasible in-person) with the most promising applicants. The final candidates will be invited for an online presentation on June 20, 2024. The final decisions will be announced in July 2024.

## **Application Deadline**

March 31, 2024

#### **Enquiries**

For further details about the project, please contact Hector Fellow at ezrenner@uni-tuebingen.de For questions related to making your application, please contact Hector Fellow Academy Office: <a href="mailto:application@hector-fellow-academy.de">application@hector-fellow-academy.de</a> or <a href="https://www.hector-fellow-academy.de">www.hector-fellow-academy.de</a>