



CytoSwitch is a medicinal chemistry project embedded within the Thorn-Seshold research group at the LMU Munich Pharmacy Department, developing light-activated chemotherapeutic drugs. Our compounds have featured in *Cell*, *Cancer Discovery*, and *Science*. Our team is funded by the Ministry of Economics' *EXIST-Forschungstransfer* grant to take our drugs through preclinical testing and in 2020 we will spin out from the LMU.

Post-Doc in Medicinal Chemistry

CytoSwitch's chemotherapeutics rely on *trans*↔*cis* photoisomerisation to switch-on their bioactivity. The isomerisation is thermally reversible, allowing compounds to switch-off again in the absence of light. By applying light only to tumour tissues, we can target our compounds' therapeutic effects to cancers *without* causing the systemic side-effects associated with other chemotherapeutics.

We are looking for a committed and dynamic synthetic chemist to join our team, to synthesise new photoswitchable drug candidates for the animal testing program, and to improve the scale-up of lead molecules and water-soluble analogues, while working within an interdisciplinary project involving chemists, biologists and a commercialisation officer.

Main Responsibilities:

- Synthesis of photoswitchable chemotherapeutic candidates
- Development of water-soluble analogues; gram-scale syntheses of lead compounds
- Working closely with the *in vitro* and *in vivo* testing team to develop new compounds
- Data interpretation (LCMS/NMR/UV-Vis), manuscript preparation (patent and/or publication) and presentation of results internally and externally

Skills & Qualities:

- Strong organic synthesis skills, with independence in the design, synthesis and characterisation of novel molecules
- Experience in PK, ADME, and medicinal chemistry relevant to guiding compound design within the drug discovery process is preferred
- Experience with writing patent applications is preferred
- Personality: an enthusiastic and self-motivated chemist, equipped to handle challenges
- Motivated by scientific innovation with the prospect of curing fatal diseases

Qualifications:

- PhD in organic, medicinal or pharmaceutical chemistry
- Professional experience in the pharmaceutical/biotech industry (e.g. internships) would be an advantage

The Post-doc position is available as of **August/September 2018**. The position is a 1 year contract with a possibility to renew. The salary follows German TV-L guidelines (E14).

Applications:

Send cover letter, CV & references to info@cytoswitch.com and wainman@cytoswitch.com. Early applications are encouraged.