We offer

two 3-year PhD positions (65% TV E13) at the Research Unit of the Department of General, Visceral, Transplant, Vascular and Pediatric Surgery, University Hospital Würzburg

The molecular mechanisms underlying weight loss after surgical procedures like Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RYGB) in morbid obesity remain unresolved.

The projects

will be based on rodent models of bariatric surgeries to understand how the intestinal barrier is involved to improve metabolic health in individuals with morbid obesity.

The first PhD position

will involve extensive metabolic phenotyping of rats following RYGB. This will include a variety of in vivo techniques such as oral glucose tolerance and intestinal permeability tests, as well as ex vivo and in vitro techniques such as the generation of organoids. Part of their project will also involve studying intestinal microbiota-host interactions with collaborators based at the Helmholtz Institute of RNA Infection (HIRI). The applicant should have a background in performing experiments on rats and experience in standard cell biology and molecular biology techniques.

The second PhD position

will involve generation of a mouse model of RYGB followed by extensive metabolic phenotyping (similar to rats following RYGB) in conditional knockout mouse lines. Part of their project will also involve experiments using human samples with collaborators based at the Department of Gastroenterology. The applicant should have a background or keen interest in microsurgery and ideally also in the breeding and maintenance of transgenic mice as well as in standard cell biology and molecular biology techniques.

Applications from severely handicapped persons will be given priority.

Please end Inquiries and application to

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