

Postdoc Position in Genetic Epidemiology, Toulouse, France

The main objective of the postdoc is the development of statistical tools to model and analyze the relationships between phenotypic and genetic data for dissecting the genetic etiology of human complex traits. Statistical association methods will be conducted for quantitative and qualitative traits.

Some of the questions we wish to explore are (i) use of family-based association methods to identify causal variants within positively linked chromosomal regions; (ii) elaborate association models for Genome Wide Association Study in samples of unrelated subjects; (iii) investigate imputation methods in their ability to increase power. The project will require development of simulation studies and to conduct association analyses in real data sets (1st project : genetic epidemiology of osteoporosis and its associated quantitative traits – bone mineral density, using family and population-based data; 2nd project: GAWs of Parkinson's disease in a large cohort of ~3,000 French patients and controls) .

This work will be conducted in the Genetic Epidemiology group of the INSERM U563 Research Unit (Hôpital Purpan, Toulouse).

The position is for 2 years and must start no later than January 2009. It is funded by the ANR. Gross salary per month depends on experience and skills, but as a rough indication for the starting net salary is ~23K Euros per year.

The candidate is expected to have a solid training (e.g., PhD) in quantitative genetics or in statistics with a strong interest in quantitative genetics and biology. Knowledge of population genetics will be helpful. The candidate is also expected to have a good background in informatics (Linux, Unix,..) and programming (e.g C++, pascal, fortran and/or perl).

For further inquiries, please contact Maria Martinez (email: maria.martinez@inserm.fr), ideally before November 30, 2008, with a CV, the names of three references who may be contacted for further information and an informal letter explaining your motivation for this position/work.