



European Malaria Graduate School



18 fellowships for training leading to PhD <http://www.biomalpar.org>

Recognizing the need for comprehensive and interdisciplinary training of young scientists in malaria, an infectious disease that affects more than half a billion people, the three EU-funded research and training networks, BIOMALPAR (www.biomalpar.org), MalParTraining and AntiMal have joined forces to create a virtual European Malaria Graduate School. BioMalPar is a European Network of Excellence that conducts research on malaria parasites and their interactions with both mammalian hosts and mosquito vectors (coordinated by A. Scherf at Institut Pasteur). MalParTraining is a European Early Stage Training (EST) Marie Curie Action dealing with the “challenge of malaria in the post genomic era” (coordinated by H. Vial at University Montpellier 2). AntiMal is a European Integrated Project for the “development of new drugs and drug combinations for the treatment of malaria” (coordinated by S. Ward at Liverpool University). After having recruited the first 16 PhD students in February 2005, the European Malaria Graduate School now offers 18 further PhD fellowships. Applications are invited for studentships linked to collaborative research projects, each supervised by two or more principle investigators, as listed below. Please follow the links for further information on the projects as well as on the application procedure.

MalParTraining PhD Programme [Malpar@univ-montp2.fr]	AntiMal PhD Programme
1. The biology of telomere and telomerase in malaria species. Supervisors: A. Waters, Leiden University, NL; A. Scherf, Institut Pasteur, F.	10. Understanding the cellular basis for quinoline/peroxide antimalarial interactions and their implications for drug efficacy and toxicity. Supervisors: D. Taramelli and D. Monti, University of Milan, I; S.A. Ward, LSTM, UK.
2. The application of transgenic reporter-strain <i>P. falciparum</i> for cell biological analysis of mosquito-parasite/host parasite interactions. Supervisors: G. Christophides and R.E. Sinden, Imperial College of Science, UK.	11. Molecular and biochemical basis of Quinoline resistance in <i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. vivax</i>. Supervisors: C. Kocken, BPRC, NL; S.A. Ward, LSTM, UK; M. Lanzer, University of Heidelberg, D; D. Vitt, 4SC AG, DE.
3. Functional analysis of members of the rhomboid-like serine proteases in erythrocytic stages of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>. Supervisors: D. Soldati, University of Geneva, CH; M.J. Blackman, NIMR, UK.	12. Role of iron in the antimalarial activity of trioxanes. Supervisors: B. Meunier and A. Robert, CNRS Toulouse, F; P.M. O'Neill, University of Liverpool, UK; D. Caussanel, Palumed, F.
4. Functional analysis of enzymes of phospholipid metabolism in <i>Plasmodium</i>. Supervisors: H. Vial, L. Gannoun, CNRS University Montpellier 2, F; A. Thomas, C. Kocken, BPRC, NL.	13. New antimalarial endoperoxide lead compounds from both natural and synthetic origin. Supervisors: G. Campianini, Siena University, I; P.M. O'Neill, University of Liverpool, UK; B. Meunier and A. Robert, CNRS Toulouse, F.
5. Proteomics and functional characterization of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> extracellular compartments. Supervisors: C. Braun Breton, University Montpellier 2, F; K. Lingelbach, University of Marburg, DE.	14. Antimalarial chemotherapy inhibiting phospholipidic metabolism, valorisation of N-hydroxylated pro-drug structures. Supervisors: T. Durand and F. Bressolle, CNRS Montpellier, F; P.M. O'Neill, University of Liverpool, UK.
6. The role of innate effector mechanisms in immune protection against malaria. Supervisors: O. Puijalon, Institut Pasteur, F; M. Troye-Blomberg, Stockholm University, SE.	15. Drug-heme interactions in lipid and aqueous environments and their implications. Supervisors: P. Bray, LSTM, UK; H. Vial, CNRS Montpellier 2, F.
7. Functional characterization of food vacuolar transmembrane proteins in <i>Xenopus laevis</i> oocytes. Supervisors: M. Lanzer, University of Heidelberg, D; G. Planelles, INSERM University Paris V, F.	16. Functional analysis of metabolite and drug carrier systems in <i>P. falciparum</i>. Supervisors: S. Krishna, St George's Hospital Medical School, UK; M. Lanzer, University of Heidelberg, DE.
8. AMA-1: A target antigen for vaccine-induced multi-stage protection in malaria? Supervisors: A.V.S. Hill, Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, UK; T. Holder, NIMR, UK.	17. Nucleoside Drug Targets in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>. Supervisors: I. Gilbert, University of Dundee, UK; D. González-Pacanowska, CSIC Madrid, E; F. Mulaa, University of Nairobi, EAK.
9. Regulation of Immune responses to variant antigens of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>. Supervisors: J. Langhorne, NIMR, UK; K. Marsh, Wellcome Trust/KEMRI Research Laboratories, EAK.	18. Pharmacokinetic studies on FR-900098, an improved inhibitor of the mevalonate-independent isoprenoid biosynthesis pathway of <i>P. falciparum</i>. Supervisors: H. Jomaa, University of Giessen, D; F. Jehl, University of Strasbourg, F; S. Van Calenbergh, Ghent University, B.

Applications are to be submitted online via the world-wide-web <http://www.biomalpar.org> and are due by 30 April 2006. Short listed candidates will be invited to EMBL, Heidelberg, on 13-14 June 2006, for interviews with the Admissions Committee. Offers of admission to the PhD programmes will be made one week after the interviews. Students can start depending on availability as early as July 2006 but no later than 1 October 2006. Admitted candidates will be expected to arrive at the University Montpellier, France in October 2006 for the 3-week Core PhD Course. Subsequent workshops and practical courses in London, Paris and Heidelberg will provide additional training opportunities.