

The Bajenoff Lab* is recruiting one Master 2 student at the Centre d'Immunologie de Marseille-Luminy (CIML)

Investigating the role of macrophages in dry eye syndrome

The eyelid is home to various populations of macrophages, which are a diverse and long-lived population of immune cells found in all organs. To investigate the functions of eyelid macrophages, we have created a mouse model in which most macrophages from the head and neck are permanently deleted. These mice naturally develop blepharitis (eyelid inflammation), enlarged meibomian glands, increased blinking, and excessive tear production, ultimately leading to dry eye disease. However, it is still unknown why the absence of macrophages leads to this phenotype and whether this alteration occurs during the developmental period or can be induced by deleting macrophages in adult stages. To address these questions, we propose to investigate the role of macrophages using a combination of different mouse models, flow cytometry, confocal microscopy, and quantitative PCR at various stages of mouse development.

The candidate will be under the supervision of Dr Bonnardel in the Bajenoff lab (CIML).

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* <http://www.ciml.univ-mrs.fr/fr/science/lab-marc-bajenoff/immunobiology-stromal-cells>

