



## PhD studentship in structural biology for antifungal drug discovery

### Searching for new compound classes and under-explored fungal protein targets

We are looking for a **PhD student** to join the project team of **Dr Maria Klimecka** at the University of Warsaw. We offer work in an international project team that includes the laboratories of Lindon Moodie and Luke Robertson (Uppsala University, SE), Seino Jongkees (VU Amsterdam, NL) and Francesca Bugli (Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli in Rome, IT). The joint project aims to generate validated hits corresponding to novel antifungal classes or those that act against under-explored protein targets, and to push these compounds for further development towards the clinic. This is an opportunity to learn the techniques of protein expression and purification, biochemical assays and structural methods (crystallography and cryo-EM). The project is part of the JPIAMR platform for Global Coordination of Antimicrobial Resistance Research. More details can be found here: <https://www.jpiaamr.eu/projects/funhitdisco>. The PhD student will have a chance to visit collaborating labs, travel to JPIAMR meetings, and be part of a dynamic young consortium. The PhD student will join the Structural Biology Group and be co-supervised by **dr hab. Maria Górna**.

We are looking for an outstanding young researcher who should have:

- A **Master's degree** in molecular biology or a related field (**awarded by September 2025**)
- Good knowledge and experience with basic molecular biology techniques
- Good organisation and communication skills
- Good spoken and written English (at least B2 level)
- Experience with protein expression and purification and structural biology techniques would be an advantage.

The scope of work will include: cloning, protein expression in bacterial and yeasts systems, protein purification, characterisation of the enzymatic activity, and structural analysis of proteins and protein-ligand complexes.

The position will be available from **October 2025** (an earlier start is also possible upon provision of a Master's diploma). The selected candidate will receive a **full studentship for 48 months** (5000 PLN from the grant in the first 36 months, and later a paid extension from the Doctoral School). An additional studentship can be obtained upon admission in a regular call to the Doctoral School (this "limited" call closes ~June 2025). See also <https://gorna.uw.edu.pl/en/jobs>

The application should be sent to: [recruit.gorna@gmail.com](mailto:recruit.gorna@gmail.com) by **21st of April 2025** with a reference in the topic JPIAMR-PhD. The most promising candidates will be invited for an interview. The candidates should provide by email:

- **Motivation letter**,
- **2 Letters of recommendation** (preferably; including one from the thesis supervisor) or 2 referee contact details
- **CV** including: grade average from the studies, awards, studentships, major conference presentations, internships, publications, and any other relevant information.
- **Clause of consent** ("*I agree to the processing of personal data provided in my application (CV, cover letter, and other submitted documents) by the University of Warsaw for realising my recruitment process.*"); Please sign and date the consent) – see e.g. <http://www.chem.uw.edu.pl/oferty-pracy>

