The group of **Prof. Dr. med. Kaan Boztug** at the Clinic of Pediatric Immunology and Rheumatology (Centre of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, University Hospital Bonn) offers a

Postdoctoral position in Immunogenetics and Pediatric Autoimmune Diseases (m/f/d) (full-time position 100 %)

Join a Leading Research Program in Childhood Lupus and Early-Onset IBD

The newly established Clinic for Pediatric Immunology and Rheumatology at the University Hospital of Bonn, led by the Director Prof. Kaan Boztug, is seeking a highly motivated and talented Postdoctoral Fellow to contribute to a cutting-edge research program focusing on the genetic and immunological mechanisms underlying childhood-onset systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and very early-onset inflammatory bowel disease (VEO-IBD). Our lab has a long-standing track record in identifying the key genetic factors that determined immune cell function in humans. In particular, in recent work we have focused on inflammatory bowel disease and identified previously unknown monogenic etiologies underlying early-onset IBD such as CD55 deficiency (Ozen A et al., *NEJM* 2015), DEF6 deficiency (Serwas NK et al. *Nat. Commun*2019) or *SYK* gain-of-function mutations (Wang L et al., *Nat Genet* 2021). Another focus is on early-onset systemic autoimmunity such as SLE, where we have identified the essential role of factors such as HEM1 (Salzer E et al., *Sci Immunol* 2020) or DOCK11 (Block J et al., *NEJM* 2023) in disease pathogenesis. Our research focuses on determining the pathophysiological basis of disease and the identification of targeted treatment options as exemplified in these studies.

The Postdoctoral project will expand ongoing efforts to investigate monogenic causes of autoimmunity in childhood, particularly in SLE and pediatric IBD. The focus will be on genetic discovery using advanced genomic approaches, as well as mechanistic immunology to functionally validate candidate genes and pathways. To gain deeper mechanistic insights, the project will leverage relevant model systems, including mouse, zebrafish, and organoid platforms. The position offers a dynamic and interdisciplinary research environment that bridges clinical pediatrics, human genetics, immunology, and translational science. The successful candidate will have access to state-of-the-art technologies and a strong collaborative network across academic and clinical institutions. The group fosters a supportive and innovative culture, with ample opportunities for scientific growth, high-impact publications, and long-term career development.

What we offer:

- A dynamic, international and interdisciplinary working environment with a strong focus on immunology
- Close collaboration with lead scientists in pediatric immunology / rare immune disorders

- Opportunities for professional development and career advancement within the research community
- Integration into the Excellence Cluster of ImmunoSensation^2 with an interdisciplinary network of excellent scientists
- Excellent core facilities to support your research across the campus
- Salary according to the German salary scale TV-L 13 (100% including additional benefits) initially limited to 4 years with the prospect of extension
- **Flexible for families:** Option for a place in the company daycare center and offers for parents returning from parental leave
- **Provision for later:** Company pension scheme (VBL supplementary pension in the public sector)
- **Smart commuting:** the possibility of an interest-free loan for the purchase of an e-bike
- **Tailored education:** Sponsored further education and training (internal seminar program and individual training/coaching)
- **Healthy at work:** Numerous health promotion offers (BGM)

Requirements:

- PhD degree in life sciences (biology, biomedicine, immunology or comparable studies) with a first-authored publication in an international, peer-reviewed scientific journal
- Profound scientific background in immunology, molecular and cell biology
- Practical experience in immunology/hematology, molecular and cell biology as well as imaging techniques
- Specific experience in relevant techniques for modelling IBD or SLE (e.g., organoids or murine models of IBD) is a plus
- Excellent organizational and communication skills, with the ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously
- Strong English skills with excellent writing and presentation abilities
- Enthusiastic and collaborative work attitude

Applicants should send their application in a single pdf file (max. 5 MB) including a motivation letter, CV, scanned academic degrees, list of publications and the contact details of two references stating the job advertisement number ST-23007 **until 15.10.2025** to

Prof. Dr. med. Kaan Boztug

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