The LOEWE Centre for Personalized Translational Epilepsy Research (CePTER) at the JW Goethe University Frankfurt focuses on the identification, validation and therapeutic modification of risk factors and biomarkers for epilepsy and epileptogenesis (http://www.uni-frankfurt.de/67689811). CePTER brings together a multidisciplinary team from clinical, molecular biology and neuroscience research. The Laboratory for Molecular Genetics at the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy, and the work group Genetics of Epilepsy at the Epilepsy Centre Rhine-Main are focusing on the identification and functional characterization of genetic risk variants for epilepsy and autism in human neuronal cell models.

**DOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITION**

Functional analysis of genetic variants implicated in epilepsy and autism

**We expect:**

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in the life sciences (e.g., Biology, Bioinformatics, Biomedical Sciences, Biotechnology). Candidates in the final stages of obtaining their degree are also welcome to apply.
- Candidates should be able to demonstrate high motivation and a strong eagerness to learn as well as strong interest in cellular neuroscience and transcriptome analysis.
- Experiences with cell cultures are mandatory, experience with human neuronal cell lines are desirable.
- Knowledge of statistics, bioinformatics and statistical programming (e.g. R) are a big advantage.
- Excellent English communication skills, both written and spoken, are mandatory.

**We offer:**

- The successful candidate will have training in the field of molecular and cellular biology including CRISPR/Cas9 technology, next generation sequencing and computational analysis at system's level.
- Our research groups are highly connected, internationally and locally, guaranteeing access to state of the art methods and research from molecules to clinical populations. This includes genetics and epigenetics, gene and RNA regulation, CRISPR/Cas9 gene engineering, neuronal stem cells, brain imaging, neuropsychology and clinical work.
- The Goethe Research Academy GRADE offers a platform for doctoral education and research support providing training and career planning for PhD candidates.
- A Thesis Advisory Committee built by a team of three experts guarantees excellent support and guidance during the project.

The position is available starting from February 2018 and will be financed corresponding to 70% TV-GU E13 (Tarifvertrag). The University of Frankfurt is commitment to equal opportunities for women and men and thus, specifically women are encouraged to apply. A day care centre for the employee's children is available at the University (waiting list). For further details please inquire. Disabled persons with comparable qualifications receive preferential status. Applicants are invited to send a CV, a letter of motivation and at least one letter of reference to Dr. Andreas G. Chiocchetti (andreas.chiocchetti@kgu.de).