

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship - Expression of Interest

(Call 2026 - Start 2027)

We are seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral researcher to jointly apply for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship (MSCA PF) to be submitted in 2026, with an expected start date at the beginning of 2027.

Project description

The proposed project is conceived as a flexible and collaborative research framework aiming to advance the molecular, cellular, and immunological understanding of human parainfluenza viruses (HPIV-1 to HPIV-4) through an integrated translational approach. The fellow will contribute to the investigation of HPIV infections using clinical viral strains and advanced human respiratory organoid models to explore viral replication dynamics, cell tropism, and host responses, while also examining innate and adaptive immune responses in hospitalized patients for antibody characterization and translational applications. It strongly encourages innovative ideas and complementary approaches proposed by the candidate, with the aim of generating high-impact project for the MSCA PF call.

Laboratory and research environment

The postdoctoral fellow will be conducted within the Dynamicure lab (<https://dynamicure.normandie-univ.fr/presentation-de-lequipe/qui-sommes-nous/>), an interdisciplinary research group with strong expertise in clinical virology, infectious diseases and viral genomics. The host environment provides access to cell culture facilities, a state-of-the-art genomic platform (ASGARD), clinical cohorts through the CHU (retrospective and prospective), advanced imaging facilities, and developing access to proteomics platforms, offering an exceptional multidisciplinary research ecosystem. Dynamicure offers a highly stimulating scientific environment, strong collaborative networks, and solid experience in student supervision and training. In addition, Rouen city offers an exceptional quality of life, combining a rich historical heritage, a vibrant cultural scene, and a dynamic academic and biomedical research environment.

Candidate profile

Applicants must hold a PhD degree for no longer than 8 years at submission of MSCA proposal. Residency in France must not exceed 12 months within the past 3 years at submission. The ideal candidate will have experience in NGS, organoid or advanced *in vitro* models in virology, and neutralization assays, with at least peer-reviewed publications in these areas. Excellent English communication skills, strong scientific autonomy, and motivation for an international and competitive MSCA application are essential. Eligibility for MSCA PF mobility rules is required (<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/calls/msca-postdoctoral-fellowships-2026>).

Application

Interested candidates should send a motivation letter, CV with the most important publications (last 5 years), research outline (state of the art, research objectives, methodology, novelty, fit with the host laboratory, maximum 2 pages) to Nancy León-Janampa (nancy.leon-janampa@univ-rouen.fr) and Jean-Christophe Plantier (Jc.Plantier@chu-rouen.fr) until April 15, 2026.

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship - Research outline template

Please submit a short research outline (max. 1-2 pages) including the following sections.

1. Project title :

Provide a concise and informative title for the proposed research project.

2. Background and state of the art

Briefly describe the scientific context of the project.

What is currently known in the field

What are the key gaps or unresolved questions?

3. Research objectives (2-3 objectives)

Clearly state the main objectives of the project. These should define the central research questions the project aims to address.

4. Methodology and approach

Briefly outline the main methods and approaches that will be used.

Include key experimental systems, analytical methods, or technologies.

5. Novelty and expected impact

Explain what is innovative about the proposed research.

What new knowledge will it generate?

How could it advance the field or have broader scientific or societal impact?

6. Fit with the host laboratory

Explain how the project aligns with the expertise and research environment of the host group.