



PhD Position – Research in Neurodevelopmental Disorders (m/f/d)

wanted for the next possible date at the **Clinic for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy**.

The Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, led by Prof. L. Poustka, is committed to advancing research in neurodevelopmental disorders. Our interdisciplinary team, including the research labs of Prof. Luise Poustka, Prof. Peter Marschik, and Dr. Martin Schulte-Rüther, focuses on early detection, diagnosis, and intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and other conditions impacting social development. Supported by multiple funding bodies (e.g., DFG, BMBF, Rett Syndrome Foundation, Volkswagen Foundation), our projects explore the development of motor, visual, verbal, and social functions in infancy, and their development from early childhood to young adulthood. Utilizing a broad spectrum of methodologies, from in-depth behavioral assessments to computer vision, machine learning and neuroimaging techniques, we aim to uncover the complexities of neurodevelopmental disorders.

Our department collaborates with numerous national and international partners and with local clinical and research departments. We offer a dynamic, interdisciplinary environment with extensive training opportunities and a supportive working atmosphere. By joining our team, you will contribute to improving early detection and understanding of neurodevelopmental disorders, ultimately enhancing the well-being of children and their families affected by these conditions.

Current projects include:

Project EL-ASD - At Elevated Likelihood for Autism Spectrum Disorder: Early Infancy.

(see GEPRIS – DFG, Marschik)

Project IDENTIFIED - Interdisciplinary Delineation of Early Neurodevelopment. Tracing Identifiers for Improving Early Detection.

(Volkswagenstiftung, Marschik)

Project FIND&ACT – Focus on Infants at Elevated Likelihood for Neurodevelopmental Diversity – A Clinical Trial on Early Intervention. (DZPG, Marschik)

Job-ID: V000014069

Field of application: Klinik für Kinder- und Jugendpsychiatrie

Location: Heidelberg

Start date: as of now

Job Category: Science and teaching

Working hours: Part time (65 %)

Published: 10.04.2025

Limitation: Temporary (3 years)

Contract: TV-L

Your Tasks

- Collaborate within a multidisciplinary team to carry out experiments with typically developing infants and infants with neurodevelopmental disorders.
- Recruit and maintain contact with families participating in longitudinal projects.
- Support & Administration of early intervention focused on communicative skills in infancy.
- Analyze and interpret behavioural and audio-visual data as well as documentation of study data and database maintenance.
- Dissemination of scientific results.

Your Profile

- A master's degree in Psychology, Neuroscience, Linguistics or related fields. Additional qualification in psychotherapeutic interventions desirable.
- Strong interest in advanced neurofunctional assessments and methods (e.g., computer vision, bioacoustics, machine learning/AI, neuroimaging, eye-tracking, multimodal data fusion) and/ or willingness to learn.
- Previous experience in working with infants or young children and their families desirable.
- **Fluent in German** and excellent proficiency in English, both written and spoken, with excellent scientific communication skills.
- Responsible and autonomous work-ethic.

What we offer

- Goal-oriented, individual training and development opportunities
- Working with the latest techniques / technical equipment
- Possibility of doctorate
- Possibility to publish scientifically is offered and supported
- Regular team meetings
- Interdisciplinary cooperation with scientific working groups of the ZPM
- (Partial) project management / project responsibility possible if suitable
- Collectively agreed remuneration, attractive company pension scheme (VBL)
- 30 days vacation
- Sustainable travel: job ticket
- Family-friendly working environment: cooperative arrangements for childcare, subsidy for child vacation care, advice for employees with relatives in need of care
- Wide range of health, prevention and sports offers

Contact & Application

For further information please contact Patrice van der Venne via **e-mail**.

Interested?

Applications will be accepted until 16.05.2025 online.

Klinik für Kinder- und Jugendpsychiatrie
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Note: The UKHD is subject to the provisions of the Infektionsschutzgesetz. Therefore, a valid measles immunity certificate is required for all persons employed at the UKHD.

The UKHD embraces diversity and values diversity.

Regardless of age, gender, sexual identity, disability, origin or religion, we offer everyone the same opportunities. If one gender is underrepresented in a particular area, we place particular emphasis on counteracting this imbalance. If they have the same aptitude, qualifications and professional performance, we give priority to people with severe disabilities when considering them for vacancies.

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