Almost 30% of the population in industrialized countries suffer from IgE-mediated allergies. These hypersensitivity diseases are caused by per se harmless molecules, termed allergens, which elicit in predisposed allergic individuals a variety of symptoms, ranging from hay fever, rhinitis, or skin- and gastrointestinal manifestations to severe anaphylactic reactions. Allergies affect the quality of daily life, cause a high rate of hospitalit y admissions and can manifest themselves in serious, life-threatening forms requiring intensive care treatment of the patients.

We focus i.) on the identification and characterization of major allergens of various allergen sources and ii.) on the elucidation of the pathomechanisms of respiratory and food allergies. With our research we aim to contribute to a better understanding of allergic diseases and to the development of tools for improved diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from allergic diseases.

We are looking for motivated students for one of the following topics:

- Food Allergies
  - Identification and characterization of allergens from meat and other animal-derived foods
  - Investigation of the process of meat allergen sensitization
- Respiratory Allergies
  - Identification and characterization of fungal allergens
  - Analysis of the effects of allergens on the gene expression in airway epithelial cells
  - Investigation of the effects of allergens and pollutants on airway epithelial cells
  - The role of mi/IncRNAs in respiratory allergies

For more information, please contact:
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