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MASTERS TRAINEE: Total Oligosaccharides in Milk

Position Snapshot

Location: Lausanne, Switzerland

Company: Nestlé Research, Nestlé Institute of Food Safety & Analytical Science

Activity Rate: 100%

Type of contract: Internship, 6 months

Start Date: February – June 2026

Position Summary

Non-digestible oligosaccharides are important components of mammalian milk, believed to play multiple roles in infant growth and development, including protection from infection, the development of a healthy gut microbiome and immune response modulation. Human milk contains over 160 different oligosaccharides, a lot of work has been done studying the concentrations of around 30 of those oligosaccharides and their potential roles in the healthy development of the infant. However, there are few papers in which the total amount of oligosaccharides in the milk have been determined.

As a Master Trainee in our Proteins and Carbohydrates Analytics department, your main activity will be to optimize and validate a method for the determination of total oligosaccharides in human milk. The right candidate should be self-motivated, curious and have great attention to detail.

To apply contact sean.austin@rdls.nestle.com

A Day in the Life of a Masters Trainee

- Review and keep up to date with literature on the subject
- Discuss experimental plan with supervisor
- Design and execute laboratory work to achieve objectives

What will make you successful

- Strong background in analytical chemistry.
- Good attention to detail.
- Previous experience with chromatography and knowledge of carbohydrate chemistry would be advantageous
- Should be comfortable working in English.

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