

## IMM is recruiting a Postdoctoral Researcher under an Employment Contract Reference IMM/CT/29-2022

The IMM – Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes is a leading Portuguese private non-profit research institute that offers a vibrant scientific environment, aiming to nurture innovative ideas in basic, clinical and translational Biomedical Research. Created in 2002, IMM has established itself as a leading national and internationally competitive biomedical institute. Its strategy has been defined by promotion of excellence, leveraged by high-quality human resources, increasing expenditure in infrastructures and knowledge transfer to the society.

**What IMM seeks:** At this moment, IMM is looking for a Postdoctoral Researcher to join the Prudêncio Laboratory coordinated by Miguel Prudêncio, under the research project ***Whole-organism vaccines against P. falciparum and P. vivax malaria with enhanced efficacy and scope***, funded by “la Caixa” Foundation, to carry out the following activities under the supervision of Miguel Prudêncio, aimed at the pre-clinical evaluation of genetically modified *Plasmodium berghei*-based candidates for whole-sporozoite vaccination against malaria:

- in vitro (hepatoma cells and primary hepatocytes) and in vivo (rodent models, including humanized mice) infections with transgenic *P. berghei* parasites;
  - immunofluorescence microscopy analyses of infected cells and liver sections;
  - immunization of rodent models of *Plasmodium* infection and sample (blood, organs and cells) collections;
  - analyses of immune responses by ELISA, IFAT and multi-parameter flow cytometry;
  - functional assays of inhibition of hepatic, blood and mosquito infection by *Plasmodium*;
- among others

### Profile of Candidate

- PhD in Biology or related areas;
- Experience in Plasmodium infection animal models;
- Personal license for working with Laboratory Animals equivalent to FELASA (Federation for Laboratory Animal Science Associations) Category B (mandatory);
- Experience in malaria research, with particular emphasis on the liver stage of Plasmodium infection;
- Experience in rodent models of Plasmodium infection;
- Experience in in vitro and in vivo infections with malaria parasites;
- Experience in cell culture of human cells;
- Expertise in flow cytometry, quantitative PCR and immunofluorescence microscopy;
- Knowledge of immunology and experience in immunological assays;
- Excellent knowledge of spoken and written English;
- Excellent communication skills, team spirit, and ability to work in a group;
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to keep detailed records of experiments;
- Critical mind and pro-activity;
- Ability to work in multidisciplinary teams.

**What IMM offers:** IMM will offer outstanding working conditions in this area in Portugal, including a full-time contract, starting predictably in May 2022.

**Working Conditions:** Unfixed-Term employment contract for 14 (fourteen) months. The gross monthly remuneration of €2153,94, in accordance with the project budget and iMM Career By-Law. The indicated amount will be subject to the mandatory taxes accordingly to Portuguese Labor Law.

**How to apply:** The call is open from **17 March 2022 until 29 April 2022** (30 working days), and the application documents (indicated below) submitted, in PDF format, through iMM website by clicking in the “**Apply**” button below the position job ad:

- a) Motivation Letter in English;
- b) Detailed CV;
- c) PhD Certificate;
- d) Email and telephone contacts of at least 2 (two) references;
- e) Other documents that the applicant may deem relevant to prove their suitability for this position.

**Note: Non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of application**

**Non-discrimination and equal access policy:** iMM promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

Pursuant to Decree-Law nr 29/2001 of 3<sup>rd</sup> February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication / expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Applications will be evaluated by Miguel Prudêncio (President of the Jury and Responsible for the Project), Helena Nunes-Cabaço and Soraia Caetano, in accordance with the following method:

The admitted applications will be evaluated taking into account the expertise, quality, and relevance of the applicants’ scientific path (scientific production and research experience), the detailed curriculum of each candidate, and the fit of the applicant’s profile to the proposed work plan.

**First phase:** Curriculum Analysis (50%) and Motivation Letter (25%) - The Curriculum will be analyzed qualitatively in what concerns the relevance of the candidate’s experience for the tasks to be performed, including executed and/or published scientific work, with special emphasis on areas related to the work plan (25%); research experience and relevant knowledge in the area of the proposed work plan as described in the candidate’s profile (25%). The motivation and interest for the activities to be performed (10%), the fit between the applicant’s prior experiences/expertise/relevant knowledge and the work plan (10%) and the command of the English language (5%) will be analyzed based on the Motivation Letter.

**Second phase:** The jury will select for the interview (evaluation: 25%) the candidates who obtained a minimum of 50% in the first phase of the evaluation. In the event of a tie, the decision will be responsibility of the chairman of the jury.

**Results:** Both admitted and excluded candidates list and final classification list shall be posted at iMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> and all admitted candidates will be notified by email.

**Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline:** After notification, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel's final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 days, from application deadline.

**Lisbon, 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2022**