

INSTITUTO DE MEDICINA MOLECULAR JOÃO LOBO ANTUNES

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Jury Meeting Minute

Reference of Fellowship IMM/BI/13-2022

The Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (IMM) opened a call for one research fellowship under the project *PTDC/MEC-NEU/6855/2020 - "Home-based monitoring of functional disability in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis with mobile sensing" (HomeSenseALS)* with the funding support from Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, IP.P. / MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC).

The ad was published at EURAXESS Portugal Portal on 8th of April 2022 and also disseminated in IMM website. The call was opened from 11th of April until 26th of April 2022 and during which the following applicant applied:

- ✓ Beatriz Almeida Rodrigues
- ✓ Beatriz Vicente
- ✓ Dalila Mexieiro
- ✓ Giulia Arenare
- ✓ Mayara Silva
- ✓ Pedro Santos Rocha
- ✓ Suresh Tungala

On the 11th of May 2022 the jury composed by Bruno Miranda, Marta Gromicho Silva and Francisco Nunes, met to analyze the application documents (Motivation Letter, Detailed CV, BSc degree Certificate and Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, its typology and duration) in accordance to the profile and work plan indicated in the job advert.

Work Plan and Goals: *The HomeSenseALS project aims to develop, implement, and validate a new approach for clinical assessment of ALS patients based on physiological, behavioral and sensorial data collection through continuous smartphone-based monitoring. The methodology used is novel as it will: integrate on a single platform the remote evaluation of multiple outcomes (including mobility impairment, speech deterioration and respiratory insufficiency); incorporate caregiver burden evaluation; consider mixed analytics for data collection (patient-centred digital solutions, home-based evaluations, and routine hospital visits); and focus on system's usability. The candidate will be part of a multidisciplinary team with the aim of developing research activities in the field of neuroscience and digital health (data collection and processing). The work plan includes collection and management of clinical databases; visit to patients in the Lisbon area to support the use of the biosensors included in the project; research focused on methodological support in the statistics field.*

Candidate's Profile:

- BSc degree holder in the area of health sciences, with achievement in disciplines such as medical physiology and biotechnology;
- Attending a Master's Degree in scientific areas associated with health sciences (such as neuroscience);
- Sensitivity and motivation for direct interaction with patients, including at their home;
- Availability to travel to the patients' homes in the metropolitan area of Lisbon;
- Interest in analyzing clinical and digital health research data (some previous experience will be of value);
- Good organizational skills and initiative to address and research new issues;
- Experience in oral and written communication of scientific results (participation in previous digital health events will be of value);
- Experience in statistical analysis of experimental data in R, SPSS, Python or related programs;
- Excellent command of Portuguese and English.

Application documents: - Motivation Letter; - Detailed CV; - BSc certificate (please check the “NOTE” in Fellowship recipients); - Candidate’s declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, its typology and duration. **The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.**

In case the applicant does not have yet the required degree certificate, a declaration of honor stating the conclusion of the necessary qualifications for the purposes of this process will be accepted and must be sent by the end date of the call.

Selection Method: Curricular Evaluation (50%), Interview (50%). Only the candidates that score at least 60% in the first phase will be selected for an interview.

Curricular Evaluation (50%)

The curricular analysis took in consideration:

- BSc degree holder in the area of health sciences, with achievement in disciplines such as medical physiology and biotechnology (15%);
- Experience in analyzing clinical and digital health research data (10%);
- Experience in oral and written communication of scientific results (participation in previous digital health events will be of value) (12,5%);
- Experience in statistical analysis of experimental data in R, SPSS, Python or related programs (12,5%).

The analysis and discrimination of each admitted candidate’ classification is the First phase of this process are presented in Annex I attached to current minute.

Following this, 3 applicants obtained at least 60% (corresponds to 30% in the scale from 0-50%) and were invited for an interview. The candidates identified below obtained at least 30% in the First Phase:

- Dalila Mexieiro
- Giulia Arenare
- Pedro Rocha

Interview (50%)

The interview took place on 18th of May 2022. The jury took in consideration the criteria indicated below:

- Sensitivity and motivation for direct interaction with patients, including at their home (16,5);
- Availability to travel to the patients' homes in the metropolitan area of Lisbon (16,5%);
- Organizational skills and initiative to address and research new issues (16,5%).

The analysis and discrimination of the candidate’ classification is the Second phase and total classification in both phases are presented in Annex II attached to current minute.

At this phase, the selected candidate will be the one with the highest score in the total of two evaluation phases.

Lisbon, 27th of May 2022



Bruno Miranda (FMUL, IMM)



Marta Gromicho Silva (IMM)



Francisco Nunes (Fraunhofer Portugal AICOS)

ANNEX I - Fellowship Reference IMM/BI/13-2022

Applicant	Curricular Analysis (50%)																Total
	BSc degree holder in the area of health sciences, with achievement in disciplines such as medical physiology and biotechnology (15%)				Experience in analyzing clinical and digital health research data (10%)				Experience in oral and written communication of scientific results (participation in previous digital health events will be of value) (12,5%):				Experience in statistical analysis of experimental data in R, SPSS, Python or related programs 12,5%)				
Name of the Jury	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	
Beatriz Almeida Rodrigues	8%	5%	6,5%	6,3%	5%	3%	6,5%	4,7%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	16,0%
	Background is mostly in the fields of molecular biology and biochemistry	Insufficient background	Licentiate in biochemistry	Justification	Limited experience in the analysis of behavioural or clinical data	Very limited experience in analysis of clinical data	Reduced experience in digital health research data	Justification	Limited experience	Very limited experience in communication of results	No experience in communicating scientific results,	Justification	Limited experience in statistics software and analysis	Very limited experience in statistical analysis	No demonstrated statistical analysis experience besides uni courses	Justification	
Beatriz Vicente	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10%	5,0%	7,5%	6,5%	6%	5,0%	2,5%	2,5%	3,3%	5,0%	2,5%	5,0%	4,2%	23,8%
	Adequate Master's degree. Good organisational and communication skills given the activities as student	Adequate background	Licentiate in biochemistry	Justification	Limited experience in the analysis of behavioural or clinical data	Some experience with clinical data	Reduced experience in digital health research data	Justification	Previous work is mostly in the fields of molecular biology and genetics	Limited experience in communication of results	No experience in communicating scientific results	Justification	Limited experience in statistics software and analysis	Limited experience in statistics softwares	No demonstrated statistical analysis experience besides uni courses	Justification	
Dalila Mexeiro	12,5%	12,5%	11,5%	12,2%	7,5%	7,5%	10,0%	8,3%	10,0%	10,0%	8,8%	9,6%	7,5%	7,5%	7,5%	7,5%	37,6%
	Adequate background.	Suitable background	Licentiate in biotechnology	Justification	Contact with the clinical field	Some clinical experience	Some experience in analysing clinical research data	Justification	Previous participation in scientific events and science communication	Good experience in communication of results	Two communications in relevant local events	Justification	Most previous experience was the field of molecular biology techniques	Good experience in statistical analysis	Some experience in using statistical analysis packages	Justification	
Giulia Arenare	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	7,5%	10,0%	5,0%	7,5%	10,0%	12,5%	8,8%	10,4%	37,9%
	Background with relevance given previous work in neurodegenerative disorders	Adequate background	Licentiate in Psychology	Justification	Current contact with clinical patients with neurodegenerative disorder	Experience in clinical data analysis	Some experience in analysing clinical research data	Justification	Participation in scientific events	Experience in communication of results	Preparing a paper	Justification	Experience with programming skills and analytics	Very good experience in statistical analysis	Some experience in using statistical analysis packages; Taking a course on AI/ML in python	Justification	

Mayara Silva	10,0%	7,6%	11,5%	9,7%	5,0%	5,0%	6,3%	5,4%	5,0%	2,5%	5,0%	4,2%	2,5%	2,5%	5,0%	3,3%	22,6%
	Background mostly in molecular biology & biochemistry	Average background	Bachelor in biomedicine and licentiate in biotechnology	Justification	Limited experience in the analysis of behavioural or clinical data	Limited experience in clinical data analysis	Reduced experience in digital health research data, having worked mostly molecular biology	Justification	Some experience.	Limited experience in communication of results	Communications are mentioned but not presented	Justification	Limited experience in statistics software and analysis	Limited experience in statistics	Reduced experience in statistical packages	Justification	
Pedro Santos Rocha	12,5%	12,5%	11,5%	12,2%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	12,5%	10,0%	12,5%	11,7%	10,0%	12,5%	11,3%	11,3%	45,1%
	Adequate background	Suitable background	Licentiate in biotechnology	Justification	Current contact with the clinical relevant field	Good experience in clinical data	Previous experience relevant to the project acquired during thesis dissertation and internships	Justification	Previous participation in relevant scientific events and science communication	Good experience in scientific communication of results	Multiple publications and communications	Justification	Experience in data analysis & clinical data. Appropriate analytical skills	Very good experience in statistical analysis	Excellent grades in relevant courses, including statistics and statistics tools	Justification	
Suresh Tungala	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	10,0%	5,0%	5,0%	5,0%	5,0%	7,5%	5,0%	2,5%	5,0%	5,0%	2,5%	5,0%	4,2%	24,2%
	Background mostly in molecular biology & biochemistry, but adequate MSc	Adequate background	Bachelor in biochemistry and microbiology with relevant master program	Justification	Limited experience in the analysis of behavioural or clinical data	Limited experience in clinical data analysis	No experience in digital health research data analysis	Justification	Participation in scientific events	Limited experience in communication of results	No communications or publications	Justification	Limited experience in statistics software and analysis.	Limited experience in statistics softwares	Limited training or experience in statistical analysis	Justification	

Marta Luisa Gromicho Morgado Silva Francisco Nunes



ANNEX II - Fellowship Reference IMM/BI/13-2022

Applicant	Interview (50%)												Total ANNEX II	Total ANNEX I + ANNEX II
	Sensivity and motivation for the direct interaction with patients, including at their home (16,5%)				Availability to travel to the patient's homes in the metropolitan area of Lisbon (16,5%)				organizational skills and initiative to address and reserach new issues (16,5%);					
Name of the Jury	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average	Bruno Miranda	Marta Gromicho	Francisco Nunes	Average		
Dalila Mexieiro	12,5%	17,5%	12,5%	14,2%	12,5%	12,5%	15,0%	13,3%	12,5%	12,5%	12,5%	12,5%	40,0%	77,6%
	Good motivation	Good motivation and academic skills.	Good motivation	Justification	Not living in Lisbon at present (despite having car)	Not living in Lisbon at present (despite having car)	Not in Lisbon but able to travel.	Justification	Good academic skills (although more molecular biology focused)	Research experience in the area of molecular biology	Research experience in the area of molecular biology	Justification		
Giulia Arenare	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	2,5%	10,0%	12,5%	12,5%	11,7%	16,7%	54,6%
	Major problem with Portuguese Language	Major problem with Portuguese Language	Major problem with Portuguese Language	Justification	Not living in Lisbon at present	Not living in Lisbon at present	Not living in Lisbon at present	Justification	Not aware of the need to join another MSc programme	No motivation to join another MSc programme	No motivation to join another MSc programme	Justification		
Pedro Santos Rocha	12,5%	12,5%	16,5%	13,8%	16,5%	16,5%	16,5%	16,5%	12,,5%	16,5%	16,5%	16,5%	46,8%	91,9%
	Good motivation	High motivation and good academic skills	Motivated and already contacting with patients	Justification	Living in Lisbon at present (with car)	Living in Lisbon at present (with car)	Living in Lisbon at present (with car)	Justification	Interests well aligned with the project (technology and health).	Developing research in the project area (technology, health and data analysis)	Developing research in the project area (technology, health and data analysis)	Justification		