

CALL FOR A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Reference IMM/BII/28-2022

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one research fellowship under the project “*Plasmodium infection of 3D hepatic cell cultures*”, with the funding support from Instituto de Biologia Experimental e Tecnológica (IBET).

Scientific Area(s): Parasitology

Fellowship recipients / Admission requirements (indicate mandatory and preferential requirements): Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that fulfill the necessary conditions to be enrolled in a PhD degree course (in a rea related to the work plan) can apply.

Applicants must hold the following requirements:

- MSc degree holder in Biology or related areas (mandatory);
- Experience in *in vitro* and *in vivo* models of *Plasmodium* infection (mandatory);
- Licence for animal experimentation equivalent to FELASA Category B (mandatory);
- Experience in whole-organism vaccines against malaria (mandatory);
- Experience in animal model immunization assays;
- Experience in quantitative PCR, immunofluorescence microscopy, and ELISA;
- Experience in *Plasmodium* transmission-blocking assays;
- Fluency in English;

The international experience of the candidates, although not a determining criterion for selection, will be valued.

Work Plan and Objectives: The Fellow will be involved in the characterization of whole-organism vaccine candidates against malaria, including, but not limited to:

- Characterization of transgenic *Plasmodium* parasites by immunofluorescence microscopy;
- Assessment of the hepatic and mosquito infectivity of genetically modified *Plasmodium* parasites;
- Immunization of animal models and assessment of immune responses;
- Functional assays of inhibition of *Plasmodium* infection.

Legislation and Applicable Regulation: Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação approved by Law nr 40/2004, from 18th August in its current form (altered by Decree Law nr 123/2019, 28th August) and current Regulation of Fellowships of Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt> (approved by Regulation nr 950/2019, from 16th December).

Predicted start date, duration and renewal conditions: The fellowship contract is predicted to start in September 2022, for a period of 4 (four) months on an exclusive basis, eventually renewable until the maximum stipulated in applicable regulations, not exceeding the eligibility period of the project.

Work place and Scientific orientation: The research activities will be developed at the Prudêncio Lab of iMM, under the supervision of Miguel Prudêncio.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: iMM undertakes to ensure compliance with the principles of non-discrimination and equality and to that extent, provides that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due in particular ancestry, age, gender, sexual

orientation, marital status, family status, economic status, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnic origin or race, place of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership.

International environment and experience: Diversity is a fundamental aspect of the essence of iMM, where researchers and non-researchers of different nationalities, backgrounds and areas of study work together, promoting the exchange of experiences and interactions, contributing to the personal and professional development of each person and to the existence of an international, inclusive and stimulating environment.

Research Fellows Support Centre: The Research Fellows Support Centre works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 6:30PM at Human Resources Office.

Fellowship financial conditions: The fellow will benefit from a monthly stipend in the amount of **1.144,64€** in accordance with the defined in FCT table <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.pt>. The amount will be paid by wire transfer at the end of each month. The fellow will also benefit from a personal accident insurance to execute the proposed research activities as well as the right to Social Security through Voluntary Social Insurance regimen, if wanted, under the terms of Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social, and the contributions costs will be supported by the research project.

Application documents: - Motivation Letter; - Detailed CV; - MSc certificate; - Contacts of 2 references; - 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.

Jury evaluation and selection: Dr. Miguel Prudêncio (iMM), Dr. Diana Fontinha (iMM) and Dr. Helena Nunes-Cabaço (iMM).

Selection methods: Curricular evaluation (65%) and Interview (35%). Interviews will only be carried out for applicants who obtain at least 50% in the Curricular evaluation.

Deadlines and application process: The call will be open from **8th August until 22nd August 2022.** Applications should be submitted through iMM website, by clicking in the "Apply" button below the position job ad. ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.***

Notification of results: The evaluation results will be announced within 90 days after the termination of the applications submission deadline, by writing and publishing a jury meeting minute at iMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> with all process of recruitment, evaluation and selection including a list of all excluded and admitted candidates and for these last ones, their classification. 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.

Selection reserve list: Not applicable.

Fellowship contracting: The Fellowship is granted through the signature of a [contract](#) between iMM and the selected fellow and after the fellow send the following mandatory documents: copy of identification document (in case of non-European citizens is mandatory the work visa / valid resident permit), document proving the required academic degree and the document proving the enrollment in a PhD study cycle.

Applicants with academic degrees obtained abroad will be required to present a certificate of recognition in accordance with the applicable regulation. This document is mandatory only in the contracting phase. For each Fellowship period an [Activity Report](#) must be prepared by the fellow as well as the [Report](#) by the supervisor.

Lisbon, 5 August 2022

The Executive Director of iMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota