

CALL FOR A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Reference IMM/BII/22-2024

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one research fellowship under the project ***“iMM-care: Boosting Clinical Research for the Benefit of Society”*** (iMM-CARE 101060102 – TEAMING) with the funding support from ***European Union, through the Horizon Europe funding program.***

Scientific Area(s) - Clinical Nutrition.

Fellowship recipients / Admission requirements: Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that fulfil the necessary conditions to be enrolled in a MSc degree course (in area(s) related to the work plan) can apply.

Applicants must hold the following requirements:

- BSc degree holder in Nutrition, or related disciplines;
- Proficiency in statistical analysis using SPSS software;
- Holder of the Clinical Investigator Certification;
- Proven experience conducting nutritional interviews/dietary recall by telephone;
- Strong organisational skills and attention to detail;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in Portuguese.

Preferential:

- Experience in body composition evaluation and dietary interventions in different pathologies will be a plus;
- Ability to thrive in a fast-paced, highly interdisciplinary environment;
- Flexible mindset focused on solutions and innovative problem-solving skills;
- Forward-thinking, can-do, proactive attitude;
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively.

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

Work Plan and Objectives: We are looking for an MSc student in Clinical Nutrition to join our team and conduct nutritional interviews for a large study aimed at identifying microbiome biomarkers for colorectal cancer (CRC) risk assessment and early diagnosis. Your responsibilities will include conducting nutritional interviews (dietary recall and PREDIMED), writing and maintaining Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs), analysing nutritional results using SPSS and other statistical software, and integrating microbiome data with diet information. You will also be expected to actively contribute to the intellectual environment of the lab and institute by preparing and presenting scientific progress at seminars, conferences, and in peer-reviewed publications.

As an MSc student in Clinical Nutrition, your objectives will be to:

- Characterise the adherence to the Mediterranean diet among study participants;
- Relate adherence to the Mediterranean diet (and its constituents) to the incidence of CRC;
- Relate adherence to the Mediterranean diet (and its constituents) to the composition of the intestinal microbiota.

Legislation and Applicable Regulation: Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação (Lei n.º 40/2004, de 18 de Agosto, republished in attachment to Decreto-Lei n.º 202/2012, de 27 de Agosto, changed by **Decreto-Lei n.º 123/2019, 28 de Agosto**), current Regulation of Fellowships of IMM and IMM Career By-Law and Assessment regulations.

Predicted start date, duration and renewal conditions: The fellowship contract is predicted to start on September 2024, 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.

Workplace and Scientific orientation: The research activities will be developed at the Microbiome in Health and Disease Translational Laboratory of IMM, under the supervision of Professor Ana Santos Almeida.

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 08:30AM to 6:00PM at the Human Resources Office.

Fellowship financial conditions: The fellow will benefit from a monthly stipend in the amount of €1064. 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; - BSc certificate; - Contacts of 2 references. ***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 honour 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: Ana Santos Almeida (IMM), Inês Santos (FMUL) and Catarina Milho (IMM).

Selection methods: Curricular evaluation (60%) and Interview (40%).

1st phase: Curricular evaluation (40%) and Motivation Letter (20%);

2nd phase: Interview - 40%. Only candidates who score a minimum of 50% on the 1st phase will be interviewed. Only the top 3 candidates will be interviewed.

Deadlines and application process: The call will be open from **June 5th 2024 until June 19th 2024**. Applications should be submitted through IMM website, by clicking on 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 the 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.

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 MSc degree course. For each Fellowship period an [Activity Report](#) must be prepared by the fellow as well as the [Report](#) by the supervisor.

Lisbon, 4 June 2024

The Executive Director of IMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota

