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CALL FOR A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Reference of Fellowship IMM/BPD/99-2018

The Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM Lisboa) opens a call for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship for a Cell/Molecular Biologist position funded by the European Research Council under the research project "*IL-7/IL-7R signaling networks in health and malignancy*" (ERC - IL7SIGNATURE - H2020; GA 648455).

Work Plan and Goals: We have demonstrated that roughly nine percent of T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (T-ALL) pediatric patients display somatic mutations in the gene that encodes the interleukin 7 receptor (*IL7R*), leading to constitutive signalling. In addition, a majority of T-ALL and B-ALL patients display the IL-7R, and IL-7-mediated signalling is required for leukemia cell survival and proliferation *in vitro* and expansion *in vivo*. Thus, targeting the IL-7R may be a therapeutically valid strategy against ALL. We propose to explore strategies to perform such targeting. The successful candidate will be involved in the *in vitro* and *in vivo* evaluation of the efficacy of different anti-IL-7R monoclonal antibodies against IL-7R, and potentially other tools (including to target anti-IL7R-mediated signalling) aiming at therapeutically eliminating leukemia cells. This is a short-term project aiming at generating data to subsequently explore in a product-oriented, translational context. If successful, the candidate will be in a key position to take part in further pursuing these goals.

Scientific Area: Health Sciences - Oncobiology

Candidate's Profile

- PhD in Molecular/Cell Biology, Molecular Medicine, Biochemistry or equivalent;
- Excellent technical skills and strong experience in molecular and cell biology techniques (including flow cytometry);
- Expertise in the mouse models, especially of leukemia, and preferably PDX, is highly desired and strongly valued;
- Background in T-ALL strongly valued;
- High degree of independence and demonstrated ability to supervise younger colleagues;
- Good communication skills.

Duration: Full-time, 6 (six) months, on an exclusive basis.

Law and Regulation: Research Fellowship Statute (Law nr 40/2004, from August 18th, republished in attach to Decree-Law nr 202/2012, from August 27th), iMM Regulation Fellowship and iMM Lisboa Career By-Law.

Predicted Start Date: December 2018 or January 2019

Workplace and Scientific Orientation: The work will be developed at João Barata's Lab at iMM Lisboa under his supervision.

Fellow Monitoring Centre: The monitoring centre works on Tuesday (09:00AM to 01:00PM / 02:00PM to 06:00PM) and Thursday (02:00PM to 06:00PM), at Human Resources of iMM João Lobo Antunes.

Monthly Remuneration: The net monthly remuneration is **1495€** (tax free), according to the values defined in the applicable regulations. However, also according to the same applicable regulation and depending on the candidate's experience and merit a higher salary can be negotiated. The amount will be paid through bank transfer. In addition, social security will be fully covered.

Necessary Documents for Applications: 1) your CV, including list of publications; 2) a motivation letter; 3) two reference contacts and/or reference letters. All documents must be in PDF format and sent by email to imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt.

The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.

Selection Method: Motivation letter and CV evaluation (60%), based on published articles and respective impact factor, previous experience in methodologies of relevance to the project; and general adequacy of the track record to the project. The top candidates will be interviewed (Phase 2 – 40%).

Evaluation: Applications will be evaluated by a jury composed of Profs. João Taborda Barata, Bruno Silva Santos and Ana Espada Sousa.

Deadlines and Presentation of Applications: The call will be open for 10 working days, **starting on 10th December and ending on 21st December 2018.**

Applications must be addressed to imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt, with all documents detailed above in PDF format, indicating the reference of Fellowship.
The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.

Notification of Results: The results will be published at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/en/job-opportunities/results/> and posted at the entrance lobby of the Institute.

Lisbon, 23rd November 2018

The Executive Director of iMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota