

**CALL FOR A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**  
**Reference of Fellowship IMM/BIPD/87-2019**

The Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, funded by National Funds (FCT-MCTES) under the exploratory research project **IF/01269/2015**.

**Work Plan and Goals:** The Fellow will be involved in the development of a project aiming at characterizing the functional and physical interactions between the telomeric RNA TERRA and telomeric proteins in human cells. The Fellow will be expected to set up recombinant protein purification pipelines and in vitro assays to test TERRA/protein interactions. The fellow will also be involved in the expression of modified telomeric proteins lacking TERRA interaction sites in human cancer and primary cells.

**Tasks will include:** expression and purification of recombinant human telomeric proteins using bacteria and/or insect cells; biochemical assays to test the interaction between recombinant telomeric proteins and telomeric RNA and DNA; Development of aminoacids substitution mutants of telomeric proteins unable to bind telomeric RNA and DNA; Expression of mutant proteins in human cells and evaluation of telomere integrity and cell fitness.

**Scientific Area:** Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Molecular Biology.

**Candidate's Profile**

- PhD in Biology or related areas obtained not more than 2 years before the submission of application (mandatory).
- At least one first author paper published in a peer-review renowned journal during the last 2 years (mandatory).
- Experience in recombinant protein biochemistry (protein expression and purification, RNA and DNA EMSAs, etc.) (Preferential Criteria).
- Experience in mammalian tissue culture (Preferential Criteria).
- Experience in CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing and cell microscopy will be considered an added value.
- Deep interest in telomere biology, genome stability and cancer and aging biology.
- Orientation towards a career in academia.
- Clear organizational skills and independence.
- Ability to positively interact with people.
- Proficiency in written and spoken English.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *In the event the PhD degree was awarded by a foreigner higher institution, the degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law nr 66/2018, 18<sup>th</sup> August, and all formalities established there must be fulfilled by applications deadline.*

**Duration of Fellowship:** 12 (twelve) months on an exclusive basis with the possibility to be extended and **without exceeding the eligibility period of the funding.**

**Laws and Regulation:** Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação (Decree Law nr 123/2019, 28<sup>th</sup> August) and current Regulation of Fellowships of Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia.

*The iMM undertakes to ensure compliance with the principles of non-discrimination and equality and provides that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due, in particular, from 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 syndical association membership.*

**Predicted Start Date:** February 2020

**Workplace and Scientific Orientation:** The work will be developed at CMAzzalin Lab of iMM under the supervision of Claus M. Azzalin, PhD.

**Fellow Monitoring Centre:** The monitoring centre works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 06:300PM at Human Resources Office.

**Monthly Remuneration:** 1600€, in accordance with the amounts defined in FCT Fellowship Regulation. The amount will be paid through bank transfer.

**Necessary Documents for Applications:** - Motivation Letter in English; - Detailed CV in English; - PhD certificate; - Reference letters might be requested at a later stage. ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.***

**Evaluation:** Applications will be evaluated by a jury composed by Claus M. Azzalin, Bruno Sousa Silva and Sérgio de Almeida (all PhDs).

**Selection Method:** First stage (90%): CV (60%) and motivation letter (30%); Second Stage (10%): The top 5 applicants with a classification equal or higher than 80% in the first stage will be selected for an interview.

**Deadlines and Submission of Applications:** The call will be open for 11 working days, **starting on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.**

Applications should be sent to iMM Human Resources through the email [imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt](mailto:imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt), indicating the reference of fellowship (mandatory). ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.***

**Communication of Results:** The results will be published at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results>.

Lisbon, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019

The Executive Director of iMM  
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota, PhD