

**CALL FOR A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**  
**Reference of Fellowship IMM/BI/65-2019**

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opened a call for a Research Fellowship 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).

The job advert was published on EraCareers Portal [www.eracareers.pt](http://www.eracareers.pt) on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and later announced on the iMM webpage.

The call was open from 23<sup>rd</sup> October until 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019, and the following candidates applied and presented all the required documents:

- Ahmad Mahmoudi
- Ana Catarina Ramalho
- André Amorim
- Carolina Costa
- Carolina Piedade
- Daniela Marques
- Laura Carvalho
- Mariana Lobato de Oliveira
- Paola Gulías

On the 6 of December of 2019, the jury composed by Drs. João Taborda Barata, Rita Fragoso and Bruno Cardoso (all PhD), analyzed the applicants' documents in accordance to the profile and work plan indicated in the advert.

**Work Plan and Goals:** *Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) is an aggressive hematological cancer and the most frequent childhood malignancy. We and others have found that IL-7 stimulates leukemia cell viability and proliferation and that around 10% of T-ALL patients display gain-of-function oncogenic mutations in the IL7R gene. Recent analysis on the high risk Ph-like B-ALL subtype revealed IL7R or other JAK-STAT-pathway activating mutations in 10% and 50% of cases, respectively. In this project, as part of our goal to dissect the impact of IL-7/IL-7R-mediated signaling in leukemogenesis, the selected candidate will be involved in the characterization of an animal model of IL7R-mediated leukemia.*

**Candidate's Profile**

- Master's degree in Biomedical sciences
- Previous experience in flow cytometry (mandatory)
- Experience in cell culture (mandatory)
- Experience with animal handling, including zebrafish embryo micro-injections and transplantation
- Experience with PCR and gel electrophoresis
- Good presentation skills and English proficiency

**Necessary Documents for Applications:** 1) Detailed CV, including list of publications; 2) A motivation letter with a short description of previous research experience with relevance to the project, main scientific achievements, and why you believe we should hire you; 3) MSc degree certificate.

**Selection Method:** Motivation letter (30%) and CV evaluation (70%), based on the general adequacy of the track record of the candidate to the project.

**MOTIVATION LETTER (30%)**

In what concerns to the motivation letter, the jury decided to evaluate the interest the following items:

- The interest and motivation for the proposed workplan (20%)
- Written English (10%)

### CURRICULAR EVALUATION (70%)

Under the curricular evaluation it was assigned the following valuation to each one of the criteria:

- Master degree in Biomedical Sciences (10%);
- Experience in flow cytometry (15%);
- Experience in cell culture (mandatory) (15%);
- Experience with animal handling, including zebrafish embryo micro-injections and transplantation (20%);
- Experience with PCR and gel electrophoresis (5%);
- Domain of the English Language (5%).

The analysis and discrimination of the classification of each candidate is presented in the table of Annex I attached to this minute.

The selected candidate was **Mariana Lobato de Oliveira** because she demonstrated to have the most appropriate skills and profile to develop the tasks indicated.

**Lisbon, 6th of December 2019**



João Taborda Barata, PhD



Rita Fragoso, PhD



Bruno Cardoso, PhD

ANEXO I

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Applicant	Curricular Evaluation (70%)							Motivation Letter (30%)		Total	Justificação
	Master degree in Biomedical Sciences (10%)	Experience in flow cytometry (15%)	Experience in cell culture (15%)	Experience with animal handling, including zebrafish embryo micro-injections and transplantation (20%)	Experience with PCR and gel electrophoresis (5%)	Domain of the English Language (5%)	The interest and motivation for the proposed workplan (20%)	Written English (10%)			
Mariana Lobato de Oliveira	10	15	15	20	5	5	19	10	99	The candidate has experience in all the required techniques and is motivated to work on this particular project.	
Paola Gullias	10	0	13	20	5	5	15	10	78	The candidate has some experience in techniques relevant to the project, notably zebrafish handling and micro-injection.	
Laura Carvalho	10	15	15	0	3	5	18	10	76	The candidate has experience in many required techniques and is highly motivated to work on this project, however s/he lacks experience with handling zebrafish.	
Ana Catarina Ramalho	10	12	15	0	5	5	18	10	75	The candidate has experience in most of the techniques required to develop the work, but lacks experience with zebrafish handling.	
Carolina Piedade	10	8	15	0	5	5	16	15	74	The candidate has experience in many required techniques but lacks experience with zebrafish work.	
Ahmad Mahmoudi	10	0	15	10	5	5	13	8	66	The candidate has experience with some techniques required to work on the project. He also has experience with animal handling, but not with zebrafish.	
Daniela Marques	10	0	15	0	5	5	15	15	65	The candidate lacks experience in two fundamental areas for this project: zebrafish handling and flow cytometry.	
André Amorim	10	8	8	0	5	5	15	10	61	The candidate does not have experience with zebrafish handling. He has some experience in other techniques relevant to the project.	
Carolina Costa	10	15	15	0	5	3	10	0	58	The candidate lacks experience with zebrafish work. According to her CV she can communicate in English, but her application was written in Portuguese.	

MS  
DF  
BC

