

CALL FOR A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER HIRING UNDER ARTICLE 19 FROM DECREE-LAW NR 57/2016, OF 29th AUGUST,
ALTERED BY LAW NR 57/2017, OF 19th JULY

Reference IMM/CT/36-2020

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call to hire a Postdoctoral Researcher correspondent to the initial level according to the Applicable Regulation, under an **Unfixed-term contract**, under *Sistema de Apoio à Investigação Científica e Tecnológica (SAICT) – Call nr 02/SAICT/2017 - Projeto de Investigação Científica e Desenvolvimento Tecnológico (IC&DT)*, funded by Investment and Structural European Funds (FEEL) – Programa Operacional Regional de Lisboa and National Funds (FCT-MEC), under the research project *PTDC/MED-IMU/28241/2017 – “Meningeal gd17 T cells – impact in health and disease” (iMMunoCOGNITION)*.

Regulation

- Decree-Law nr 57/2016, from 29th August, altered by Law nr 57/2017, from 19th July, that approves a Doctoral Hiring regime to stimulate Scientific and Technological Employment in all knowledge areas (RJEC).
- Portuguese Labor Law, approved by Law nr 7/2009, from 12th February in its current writing.
- Regulatory Decree Nr 11-A / 2017, of 29th December.

1. **Work Plan Activities:** Combining transgenic mouse models and human samples, the candidate will assess the impact of meningeal IL-17 on the timecourse of Alzheimer’s disease. Namely, we propose:
 - a) To decipher the rules driving the accumulation of meningeal IL-17 observed in the mouse at the onset of neurodegeneration;
 - b) To validate the clinical relevance of the project through complementary in silico (transcriptome database) and ex vivo (patient samples) approaches.
 2. **Members of the Jury:** According to article nr 13 from RJEC, the jury is composed by Julie Ribot (President of the Jury and Responsible for the Project) and Professors Bruno Silva-Santos and Luisa Lopes (all PhD’s).
 3. **Start Date and workplace:** The contract is expected to start in September 2020 and will remain only for the necessary execution period of the work plan; the activities will be developed in iMM installations and/or other necessary locations to their execution.
 4. **Monthly remuneration:** Gross monthly Remuneration is **2.128,34€**, in accordance with subsection a), section 1, article 15 from Law nr 57/2017, 19th July, and with the remuneration position at initial level predicted in article 2 of Regulatory Decree nr 11-A/2017, of 29th December, correspondent to level 33 at Tabela Remuneratória Única, approved by Order nr 1553-C/2008, 31st December.
 5. **Profile of Candidate:** Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that hold the following requirements can apply:
 - a) PhD in Neuroscience/Immunology/Biomedicine or related areas;
 - b) Strong background in immunology or neuroscience (mandatory);
 - c) Experience working with mouse models (mandatory);
 - d) Flow cytometry, live imaging, molecular biology or bioinformatics skills (valued).
- 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, 18th August, and all formalities established there must be fulfilled by applications deadline.*
6. **Application process:** The call is open from **10th July until 20th August 2020** (30 working days), and the application documents (indicated below) should be sent, in PDF format, to Human Resources Office through the email imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt, indicating the Reference of the position (mandatory):
 - a) CV with list of publications;
 - b) Motivation letter (in English) detailing previous experience relevant to the project (see candidate’s profile); -
 - c) PhD Certificate (Please check **“IMPORTANT NOTE”** in the “Profile of Candidate”);
 - d) Two reference letters or two contacts of references.

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

6.1. False statements provided by the candidates shall be punished by law.

- 6.2. IMM promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.
- 6.3. Pursuant to Decree-Law nr 29/2001 of 3rd February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication / expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.
7. **Evaluation criteria:** The admitted applications will be evaluated taking into account the quality, timeliness and relevance of the scientific path (scientific production and research experience) and curriculum of each candidate (a) and their adequacy to the proposed work plan.
- First phase: Curriculum Analysis (60%) and Motivation Letter (30%) - Based on the Curriculum, it will be analyzed qualitatively, and in what concerns to its content and relevance for the tasks to be performed, namely: executed and/or published scientific work, with special emphasis on areas related to the work plan (30%); research experience and relevant knowledge in the area of the proposed work plan as described in the candidate profile (30%). Based on the letter of motivation will be evaluated the motivation and interest for the activities to be performed (25%), command of the English language (5%).
- Second stage: The jury will select for the interview (evaluation: 10%) the 5 candidates who obtained in the first phase the highest ranking, with a minimum of 40%, or the number of candidates, up to 5, who obtained in the first phase a minimum rating of 40%. In the event of a tie, the decision will be responsibility of the chairman of the jury.
- 7.1. After evaluation of all admitted applications, the jury will produce a written report of the recruitment process, including an ordered short list of approved candidates and their classification.
- 7.2. The jury's final decision of the jury shall be validated by the Head of the Institution, who is also in charge of the hiring.
8. **Results:** Both admitted and excluded candidates list and final classification list shall be posted at Av. Prof. Egas Moniz, Ed. Egas Moniz, 1649-028 Lisboa, at IMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> and all candidates will be notified by email.
9. **Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline:** Pursuant to article 121 of the Administrative Procedure Code, after notified, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel's final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 days, from application deadline.

Lisbon, 9th July 2020



FUNDED POST-DOCTORAL POSITION IN NEUROIMMUNOLOGY

BACKGROUND: The notion of “immune privilege” of the brain has recently been revised to accommodate its infiltration, at steady state, by immune cells that participate in normal neurophysiology. Namely, we identified a novel population of IL-17 producing meningeal $\gamma\delta$ T cells that impact on cognition by regulating neuronal synaptic plasticity (Ribeiro M, Brigas H et al, Science Immunology, 2019). We now aim to assess the relevance of these findings in the context of neurodegeneration.

PROJECT: Combining transgenic mouse models and human samples, the candidate will assess the impact of meningeal IL-17 on the timecourse of Alzheimer’s disease. Namely, we propose (i) to decipher the rules driving the accumulation of meningeal IL-17 observed in the mouse at the onset of neurodegeneration; and (ii) to validate the clinical relevance of the project through complementary *in silico* (transcriptome database) and *ex vivo* (patient samples) approaches. We thus expect to pave the way for the identification of novel reliable biomarkers and targets for effective immunotherapeutic strategies in neurodegenerative diseases.

The candidate is expected to start in October 2020 and will receive monthly subsidy and social security stipends according to the table of IMM and FCT (scale 33).

RESEARCH GROUPS: The work will be supervised by Dr Julie C. Ribot, a junior PI from the laboratory of Prof. Bruno Siva-Santos, in collaboration with the laboratory of Dr. Luisa Lopes. Both groups are hosted at IMM (Lisbon, Portugal), a vibrant interdisciplinary environment, with enthusiastic critical mass and great research facilities.

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Julie_Ribot

<https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/pt-pt/investigacion/laboratorios/bruno-silva-santos-lab>

<https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/pt-pt/investigacion/laboratorios/luisa-lopes-lab-2>

CANDIDATE’S PROFILE: We are seeking extremely motivated, organized and skilful scientists with a PhD degree in Immunology or Neuroscience. Experience with mouse experimentation is important. Flow cytometry, live imaging, molecular biology or bioinformatics skills will be greatly valued. The candidate should have a good level of English.

APPLICATION: A motivation letter, Curriculum Vitae, PhD diploma and two reference letters should be sent in a single PDF file named “PostDoc2020_CandidateName” to julie.ribot@gmail.com and imm-hr@medicina.ulisboa.pt.

Application closes on the 20th of August 2020.

Selected candidates will be called for an interview in September.