

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/23-2021

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for the hiring of a Postdoctoral Researcher correspondent to the initial level according to the Applicable Regulation, under an **Unfixed-term Contract**, with the funding support from National Funds (FCT) under the project **PTDC/BIA-MOL/6624/2020 - "Assembly and functions of the mammalian telomeric deoxyribo/ribonucleoprotein particle at chromosome ends and beyond"**.

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.
- Decree-Law nr 10-B/2020, from 20th March.

1. Work Plan Activities

- a) Generation of vectors for the expression of chimeric shelterin proteins manipulated to alter the transcriptional landscape of telomeres.
- b) Expression of the aforementioned proteins in telomerase positive, ALT or primary human cells.
- c) Evaluation of TERRA transcription and telomere stability and maintenance in the aforementioned cells.
- d) Evaluation of cell proliferation and viability (apoptosis and senescence detection) in the aforementioned cells.
- e) Sequencing of TERRA in primary cells cultured to senescence using long read-based techniques.

2. Members of the Jury: According to article nr 13 from RJEC, the jury is composed by Claus M. Azzalin (President of the Jury and Responsible for the Project), Sergio de Almeida and Bruno Silva (all PhD's).

3. Start Date and workplace: The contract is expected to start on June 2021 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 **2.134,73€**, 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 and updated by Decree-Law nr 10B/2020, from 20th March.

5. Profile of Candidate: Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that hold the following requirements can apply:

- PhD in biology or related areas;
- At least 1 publication in a high profile, peer-reviewed international scientific journal;
- Very high motivation to study telomere functions in cancer and ageing;
- Extensive experience in mammalian tissue culture, molecular biology (including Southern and northern blotting) and cell biology (including DNA and RNA FISH, indirect immunofluorescence for detection of telomeres and DNA damage markers and cellular viability assays including senescence and apoptosis detection);
- Proven experience in genome stability and telomere biology;
- Proven experience in long read sequencing of DNA and RNA;
- Good knowledge of English;
- Excellent communication skills and team spirit;
- Critical mind, proactivity and independence;
- Career oriented attitude and experience in the supervision of younger scientists.

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 **19th March until 30th April 2021** (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) Motivation Letter in English;
- b) Detailed CV in English;
- c) PhD Certificate (Check the **"IMPORTANT NOTE"** indicated in the "Profile of Candidate");
- d) Other documents that applicant may consider to be relevant to prove the scientific course;
- e) Reference letters are **not required** at this stage but might be asked by the jury directly to the Referees.

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 (**70%**) and Motivation Letter (**20%**) - 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 (20%); research experience and relevant knowledge in the area of the proposed work plan as described in the candidate profile (50%). Based on the letter of motivation will be evaluated the motivation and interest for the activities to be performed (**15%**), 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 60%, or the number of candidates, up to 5, who obtained in the first phase a minimum rating of 60%. 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 write a meeting minute with all process of recruitment, evaluation and selection including an ordered short list of approved candidates (alphabetic order) and their respective classification.

7.2. The final decision of the jury shall be validated by the Head of the Institution, who is also in charge of deciding about the hiring.

8. **Results:** Both admitted and excluded candidates list and final classification list shall be posted at iMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> and all admitted 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, 17th March 2021