

CALL FOR AN INITIATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Reference IMM/BII/23-2021

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one Initiation Research Fellowship with the funding support from LaCaixa Foundation under the project ***"Fighting Zika virus with antiviral peptides and conjugates translocating blood-placental and blood-brain barriers"***.

Scientific Areas: Biochemistry and related disciplines

Fellowship recipients / Admission requirements: Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that fulfill the necessary conditions to be enrolled in a non-academic degree course in area related to the work plan can apply.

Are considered "Non-academic degree courses" the ones referred in [paragraph e\) of number 3 of article 4 of Decree-Law nr 74/2006, from 24th March](#), in its current version, as long as they are developed in association and cooperation between a higher education institution and at least one R&D Unit in accordance with the provisions of paragraph e) of Article 3 of FCT Fellowship Regulation.

Applicants must hold the following requirements:

- Master degree holder in biological or chemical sciences;
- Experience related to infection and/or drug development, in any field;
- Experience in analytical and/or imaging and/or animal techniques;
- Good knowledge of English, spoken and written;
- Good communication skills.

Work Plan and Objectives

- Evaluation of the translocation capacity and toxicity of porphyrin-peptide conjugates in cell lines
- In vitro and/or in vivo testing of the efficiency of porphyrin-CPP conjugates in inactivating zika virus
- Cell viability assays related to infectious diseases and drug action

Law and Regulation: Law and Regulation: Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação (Lei n.º 40/2004, de 18 de Agosto, republished in attachment to Decreto-Lei n.º 202/2012, de 27 de Agosto, changed by **Decreto-Lei n.º 123/2019, 28 de Agosto**), current Regulation of Fellowships of iMM and iMM Career By-Law and Assessment regulations.

Predicted start date, duration and renewal conditions: The fellowship contract is predicted to start in December 2021 or January 2022, for a period of 6 (six) months on an exclusive basis, eventually renewable until the maximum stipulated in applicable regulations, not exceeding the eligibility period of the project.

Work place and scientific orientation: The research activities will be developed at Physical Biochemistry of Drugs & Targets Lab of iMM, under the supervision of Professor Ana Salomé Veiga (PhD).

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: iMM undertakes to ensure compliance with the principles of non-discrimination and equality and to that extent, provides that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due in particular 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 trade union membership.

Fellow Monitoring Centre: The monitoring centre works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 6:30PM at Human Resources Office.

Fellowship financial conditions: The fellow will benefit from a monthly stipend in accordance with the applicable regulation based in the merit and experience of the candidate. The amount will be paid by wire transfer at the end of each month. The fellow will also benefit from a personal accident insurance to execute the proposed research activities as well as the right to Social Security through Voluntary Social Insurance regimen, if wanted, under the terms of Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social, and the contributions costs will be supported by the research project.

Application documents: - Motivation Letter; - Detailed CV; - MSc degree certificate; - Contact of 2 (two) references; - Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships under the Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação, its typology and duration. ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.***

In case the applicant does not have yet the required degree certificate, a declaration of honor stating the conclusion of the necessary qualifications for the purposes of this process will be accepted and must be sent by the end date of the call.

Jury evaluation and selection: Applications will be evaluated by Miguel Castanho (FMUL, IMM), Ana Salomé Veiga (FMUL, IMM) and Ana Rosa Herdade (FMUL, IMM).

Selection methods: The selection will be made by curricular evaluation (50%) and letter of motivation (10%). Only the top ranked candidates will be selected for an interview (40%).

Deadlines and application process: The call will be open from **12th of November until 25th of November 2021 (10 working days)**. Applications should be submitted through IMM website, by clicking in the "Apply" button below the position job ad.

Notification of results: The evaluation results will be announced within 90 days after the termination of the applications submission deadline, by writing and publishing a jury meeting minute at IMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> with all process of recruitment, evaluation and selection including a list of all excluded and admitted candidates and for these last ones, their classification. All admitted candidates will be notified by email.

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.

Fellowship contracting: The Fellowship is granted through the signature of a [contract](#) between iMM and the selected fellow and after the fellow send the following mandatory documents: copy of identification document (in case of non-European citizens is mandatory the work visa / valid resident permit), document proving the required academic degree and the document proving the enrollment in the non-academic degree course.

For each Fellowship period an [Activity Report](#) must be prepared by the fellow as well as the [Report](#) by the supervisor.

Lisbon, 11th of November 2021

The Executive Director of iMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota