

INSTITUTO DE MEDICINA MOLECULAR JOÃO LOBO ANTUNES

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Jury Meeting Minute

Reference of Fellowship IMM/BIPD/5-2022

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opened a call for a Postdoctoral research fellowship with the funding support from European Research Council, under the project "**Exploring the hidden life of African trypanosomes: parasite fat tropism and implications for disease**" (GA771714 - FatTryp).

The ad was published at EURAXESS Portugal Portal on 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2022 and also disseminated in iMM website. The call was opened from 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 until 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2022 and during which the following applicant applied:

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Aabid Hussain         | ✓ Mahendra Jamdhade     |
| ✓ Bilkisu Yusuf         | ✓ Maria Sarmiento Cunha |
| ✓ Hanane El Hafa        | ✓ Tiago Gomes           |
| ✓ Hélio Crespo          | ✓ Willian Bertoldo      |
| ✓ Joana Bugalhão        | ✓ Zohreh Lasjerdi       |
| ✓ Kuppusamy Chenniappan |                         |

The following applications were not considered since they did not fulfilled all the call notice requirements:

- ✓ Bilkisu Yusuf
- ✓ Zohreh Lasjerdi

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 the jury composed by Luísa Figueiredo, Sara Silva Pereira and Diana Fontinha (all PhD's), met to analyze the application documents (One page motivation Letter written in English; Detailed CV, including a list of publications, research grants, prizes and technical expertise; PhD certificate; two reference letters and/or reference contacts;) in accordance to the profile and work plan indicated in the job advert.

The jury member Fabien Guegan has been replaced by Diana Fontinha, the new member of the jury has all the skills to evaluate these applications.

**Work Plan and Objectives:** *Trypanosoma brucei* parasite has a complex life cycle adapting rapidly to changes in different host environments (nutrient availability, temperature, host defenses, etc.) for survival and function. Luisa Figueiredo lab has shown that adipose tissue is a major reservoir of *Trypanosoma brucei* parasites in a mouse model of African trypanosomiasis. This discovery raises several questions notably to understand why *T. brucei* parasite accumulates in adipose tissue and if adipose tissue environment is beneficial for the parasite survival. In this project, the postdoctoral research fellow will characterize the parasite-host interaction of tissue colonization during an infection by *T. brucei* parasites.

**Candidate's Profile:**

- PhD in Biology or similar field;
- Excellent knowledge and experience in metabolism and physiology;
- Experience in cell culture and in vitro cell assays;
- Excellent knowledge in English, spoken and written;
- International experience (congresses, courses, etc.);

- Available to start immediately.

**Necessary Documents for Applications:** One page motivation Letter written in English; - Detailed CV, including a list of publications, research grants, prizes and technical expertise; - PhD certificate (please check the "NOTE" in Fellowship recipients); - Name and Contact of two references; - Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, 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.

**Selection Method:** CV and motivation letter (75%); and interview and references (25%). The jury will select for the interview (evaluation: 10%) the candidates who obtained in the first phase the highest ranking, with a minimum of 60%, or the number of candidates, up to 2, who obtained in the first phase a minimum rating of 40%.

**CV and motivation letter (75%)**

The analysis of the Curriculum Vitae and Motivation letter took in consideration:

- PhD in Biology or similar field (5%);
- Excellent knowledge and experience in metabolism and physiology (20%).
- Experience in cell culture and in vitro cell assays (20%);
- International experience (congresses, courses, etc.) (10%);
- Motivation and adequacy for the activities to be performed (15%);
- Command of the English language (5%).

The analysis and discrimination of all admitted candidate's classification is presented in Annex I.

After assessing all valid applications, the jury found that none of the candidates met the required profile. Thus closing the selection process, the position remained unfilled.

**Lisbon, 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2022**



Luísa Figueiredo (iMM)



Sara Silva Pereira (iMM)



Diana Fontinha (iMM)

## ANNEX I - Research Fellowship Reference IMM/BIPD/5-2022

Applicant	Curriculum Analysis and Motivation Letter (75%)						Total	Justification ( <i>must be clear, transparent and enough</i> )
	PhD in Biology or similar field (5%)	Excellent knowledge and experience in metabolism and physiology (20%)	Experience in cell culture and in vitro cell assays (20%)	International experience (congresses, courses, etc.) (10%)	Motivation and adequacy for the activities to be performed (15%)	Command of the English language (5%)		
Aabid Hussain	5	5	10	5	5	5	35	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and in culture, cloning, in cellular and molecular techniques and in citometry and quantitative methods. Good motivation letter showing clear commitment to research, but with no reference about lab papers or ideas for the project. But is a good motivation letter.
Hanane El Hafa	5	0	5	1	1	5	17	Experience not related with the field. Good motivation letter but not shows knowledge about the project.
Hélio Crespo	5	10	6	6	7	5	39	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and molecular biology. Excellent motivation letter showing comitment with science and also the project.
Joana Bugalhão	5	0	7	7	8	5	32	Experience not related with the field. Excellent motivation letter showing comitment with science and also the project.
Kuppusamy Chenniappan	5	2	10	2	5	5	29	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and molecular biology. Good motivation letter showing comitment with science but not with the project.
Mahendra Jamdhade	5	20	6	1	2	5	39	The candidate has demonstrated the ability to manipulate parasites and therefore possesses many skills for the project. The candidate already has been interwied before for similar position and it has showed some dificulties to answering questions related to the project.
Maria Sarmiento Cunha	5	0	5	5	5	5	25	Experience not related with the field. Good motivation letter showing comitment with science but not with the project.
Tiago Gomes	5	0	5	1	7	5	23	Experience not related with the field. Good motivation letter showing comitment with science and some interest about the project.
Willian Bertoldo	5	2	5	5	5	5	27	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and in cellular and molecular techniques. Good motivation letter showing clear commitment to research, but with no reference about lab papers or ideas for this project. Besides that this application refers to another project of the lab.