

## IMM is recruiting a Researcher under an Employment Contract

### Reference IMM/CT/30-2022

The IMM – Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes is a leading Portuguese private non-profit research institute that offers a vibrant scientific environment, aiming to nurture innovative ideas in basic, clinical and translational Biomedical Research. Created in 2002, IMM Lisboa has established itself as a leading national and internationally competitive biomedical institute. Its strategy has been defined by promotion of excellence, leveraged by high-quality human resources, increasing expenditure in infrastructures and knowledge transfer to the society.

**What IMM seeks:** At this moment, IMM is looking for a Researcher to join the Signaling in Cancer Laboratory coordinated by João Barata, under the research project *PTDC/MEC-ONC/4606/2021 - “L7R hijacking by lung cancer cells: contribution for cancer development, metastasis and resistance to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy”* with the funding support from Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC).

**Work Plan and Objectives:** Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths worldwide. Non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is the major lung cancer subtype, accounting for 85% of all cases. Interleukin (IL)-7 and its receptor (IL-7R) are critical for T-cell development, survival of naïve T-cells, and generation and maintenance of memory T-cells, being essential for efficient immune anti-tumor responses. However, they can be subverted to promote cancer progression: IL-7 accelerates leukemia development and IL7R is a bona fide lymphoid oncogene. There is also evidence that IL-7R can be aberrantly expressed in solid tumors and contribute to tumor expansion and resistance to therapy. In this project, we propose to provide evidence that lung cancer cells can hijack IL-7R to promote tumor development and metastasis. The successful candidate will be a highly organized, sociable and pro-active person. The candidate will participate in tasks such as the following:

- Cell culture of cancer cell lines and primary cancer cells;
- Molecular biology techniques (DNA and RNA extraction, PCRs, qPCR, RT-PCR, cloning, Western blot);
- Flow cytometry analysis;
- Experimental work with animal models, including genotyping;
- Bioluminescence imaging.

#### Profile of Candidate

- Master's degree in Biomedical sciences;
- Previous experience in cell culture of cancer cell lines and primary cancer cells (mandatory);
- Previous experience in molecular biology techniques (DNA and RNA extraction, qPCR, RT-PCR, Western blot) (mandatory);
- Previous experience in Microscopy and Flow Cytometry analysis (mandatory);
- Personal license and experience with animal handling, including colony management of transgenic mouse lines (mandatory);
- Know-how in the oncobiology field (highly valued);
- Previous expertise in IL-7/IL-7R signaling (desirable);
- Excellent knowledge of English, spoken and written (highly valued).

**What IMM offers:** IMM will offer outstanding working conditions in this area in Portugal, including a full-time contract, starting predictably in May 2022, and the possibility to work in the interface of research and research support facilities.

**Working Conditions:** - 12 months unfixed-term employment contract; - Gross monthly salary of **1033€** in accordance with the project budget and IMM Career By-Law. The indicated amount will be subject to the mandatory taxes accordingly to Portuguese Labor Law.

**How to apply:** Please submit your **Motivation Letter** with a description of your previous research experience with relevance to the project, your main scientific achievements, and why you believe you have the profile and qualities to be in the project; **Detailed CV; MSc degree certificate and two reference letters and/or reference contacts in PDF format** through IMM website by clicking in the “**Apply**” button below the position job ad, **from 16<sup>th</sup> of March until 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2022.**

**Non-discrimination and equal access policy:** 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.

Pursuant to Decree-Law nr 29/2001 of 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Jury evaluation and selection:** João Taborda Barata (FMUL, IMM), Rita Cascão (IMM) and Rita Fragoso (IMM).

**Selection methods: Curricular analysis (60%) and Motivation Letter (40%).** The Curriculum 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 (20%); research experience and relevant knowledge in the area of the proposed work plan as described in the candidate profile (40%). The letter of motivation will be evaluated regarding the motivation and interest for the activities to be performed (25%), and command of the English language (15%).

**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.

**Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline:** After notification, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel’s final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 days, from application deadline.

Lisbon, 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2022