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Designação do Projeto: LA/P/0082/2020

Concurso: LA 2020

Programa: 6817 - DCRRNI ID

Área científica principal: Ciências da Saúde

Entidade Beneficiária: Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (IMM/FM/ULisboa)

Data de Início: 01-01-2021

Data de conclusão: 31-12-2025

Financiamento concedido: 9.117.814,00€

Financiamento FEDER concedido: 0,00 €

Financiamento nacional concedido: 9.117.814,00€

Financiamento próprio: 0,00 €

Objetivos:

iMM's strategy is fully aligned with the key public policies defined at European, national and regional levels and is laid upon three major objectives:

1. To promote SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

Our major goal is to foster new and disruptive discoveries, creating room for bold initiatives that cannot be anticipated today. This requires an extremely dynamic and collaborative structure based on a vibrant faculty with an outstanding research portfolio that spans 4 biomedical research lines (all of which with outstanding critical mass). iMM aims to attract and maintain world-class basic and clinical researchers, along a recruitment, evaluation and promotion path based solely on professional excellence.

2. To nurture ADVANCED TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

iMM is fully committed to training and educating the most promising researchers to succeed in internationally competitive environments of academia, industry and clinical medicine. Active recruitment of fellows from diverse academic backgrounds will provide the “tool kit” required to address broad and challenging scientific problems. In particular, iMM aims to play a key role in the scientific training of MD interns to ensure a new generation of Clinician-Scientists capable of bridging basic and clinical research.

Our MSc and PhD programs aim to provide the right balance between autonomy and close supervision, to explore the fundamentals of living systems at all levels - from gene to cell, from tissues to physiology - and leverage the knowledge to improve human health and foster global welfare. Although research-centered, our training also exposes students to complementary knowledge and skills, empowering them to become successful professionals, within the full-spectrum of Biomedical career options.

In parallel, IMM fosters early career development of postdoctoral researchers and proposes an intensive and demanding period of development of new scientific and transferable skills necessary for researchers to attain a leading independent position, such as principal investigator, professor or other senior position in education or enterprise of any nature.

Our goal is to train and consolidate the workforce at all levels, by encouraging the best scientists to work in biomedical research and providing the best possible conditions and tools to maximize their creativity and develop their careers at IMM or elsewhere around the world.

3. To galvanize TRANSLATION FOR HUMAN HEALTH

We strongly advocate that outstanding science is the motor of groundbreaking applications. We aim to deploy improved streamline processes that will ensure a close interaction between our scientists and key stakeholders, such as Pharma and Health professionals – towards clinical translation – as well as investors and entrepreneurs – aiming at commercialization. We have recently implemented a novel structure that ensures the identification and development of disruptive ideas towards transfer of knowledge and technology. We will also promote institutional partnerships of our scientists with the health care sector, ranging from translational projects to researcher-driven clinical trials. This objective will directly support and contribute to the new European Research Area (ERA) strategic objective of *Transferring results to the economy to boost business investments and market uptake of research output, as well as foster EU competitiveness and leadership in the global technological setting*. At the national scope, it will support i) the link of the institutions that can execute R&D projects (that companies cannot) to the companies and potentiate their applications in the economy (*Strategic Vision for the Plan for Economic Recovery for Portugal 2020-2030*); ii) the new policy objective ‘**A smarter Europe – innovative and smart economic transformation**’ which brings together innovation, research and SME support (EC Cohesion Policy¹); iii) the entrepreneurial competitiveness and the development of the scientific and technological basis for a strategy based on innovation (Strategy Portugal 2030); iv) the capacity of researchers to create economic value from patents, allowing financial revenues from the investment in clinical and translational research; and v) the capacity to create start-ups capable of attracting other sources of investment, namely from non-academic innovation sources (National Thematic Agenda for Research and Innovation – Health, Clinical and Translational Research in Portugal until 2030). Additionally, it will contribute to focus areas for leveraging territorial development, in particular to the strategic pillar of “High added value” (Strategy 2030 to the Lisbon and Tagus Valley Region²), including the **knowledge economy** (reinforcing knowledge transfer efforts, promoting projects with potential economic value, strengthening links between academia, research and industry), **Open innovation, Research and Investment** (knowledge transfer to differentiated and tradeable goods and services) and **Entrepreneurship** (promotion of spin-off companies creation).

¹ [New Cohesion Policy](#)

² [RLVT2030 - Strategy 2030 to the Lisbon and Tagus Valley Region](#)