

INSTITUTO DE MEDICINA MOLECULAR JOÃO LOBO ANTUNES

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**Jury Meeting Minute**

**Reference of Fellowship IMM/BIPD/21-2022**

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opened a call for a Postdoctoral research Fellowship with the funding support from European Research Council, through the research 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 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and also disseminated in iMM website. The call was opened from 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 until 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022, during which the following applicants applied:

- ✓ Abdulbasit Amin
- ✓ Hélio João dos Santos Crespo
- ✓ Osama Bekhet

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 the jury composed by Luisa Figueiredo (iMM), Sara Silva Pereira (iMM) and Helena Cabaço (iMM) (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; - Name and Contact of two references; - Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, its typology and duration. - in accordance to the profile and work plan indicated in the job advert.

**Work Plan and Goals:** *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; - Name and Contact of two references; - Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, its typology and duration. 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:** 1st phase: CV and motivation letter (75%); 2nd phase: Interview (10%) and references (15%). The jury will select for the interview the candidates who obtained in the first phase the highest score, with a minimum of 60%.

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

The analysis of the Curriculum Vitae 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 the admitted candidates classification in the First phase is presented in Annex I.

### **INTERVIEW (10%) AND REFERENCES (15%)**

Following this, the jury decided to invite for an interview the applicants that obtained at least 60% in the First Phase. The applicant is identified below.

- Abdulbasit Amin.

The interview took place on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and it was based in the criteria indicated below:

- a) Adequacy of the track record of the candidate to the work plan (2%);
- b) Scientific curiosity and motivation for the proposed activities (2%);
- c) Ease of communication and autonomy (2%)
- d) High sense of organization and teamwork (2%);
- e) Command of the English language (1%);
- f) Immediate availability (1%);
- g) References (15%);

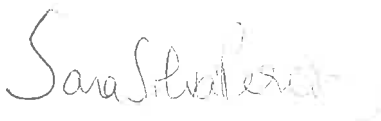
The analysis and discrimination of the candidate's classification in the Second phase and total classification and ranking are presented in Annex II.

At this stage, the selected candidate is the one with the highest score.

**Lisbon, 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2022**



Luisa Figueiredo (iMM)



Sara Silva Pereira (iMM)



Helena Cabaço (iMM)

## Fellowship Reference IMM/BIPD/21-2022

Applicant	CV and motivation letter(75%)						Total	Justification
	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%)		
<b>Abdulbasit Amin</b>	5	18	18	6	10	5	62	The candidate has extensive experience in the field and is comfortable with a wide range of techniques that will be necessary for the success of the project. Outstanding motivation to do research in the field. Excellent track record in metabolism and physiology.
<b>Hélio João dos Santos Crespo</b>	5	10	6	6	10	5	42	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and in culture, cloning, in cellular and molecular techniques. Excellent motivation letter showing commitment with science and also the project.
<b>Osama Bekhet</b>	5	10	6	5	5	5	36	The candidate has showed some relevant experience within the research area and in culture, cloning, in cellular and molecular techniques. 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.

Fellowship Reference iMM/BIPD/21-2022

Applicant	CV + Motivati on Letter (75%)	Interview (10%)						References (15%)	Total ANNEX II	Justification	Total ANNEX I + ANNEX II	Ranking
		Adequacy of the track record of the candidate to the work plan (2%)	Scientific curiosity and motivation for the proposed activities (2%)	Ease of communication and autonomy (2%)	High sense of organization and teamwork (2%)	Command of the English language (1%)	Immediate availability (1%)					
Abdulbasit Amin	62	2	2	1	1	1	0,5	15	22,5	Presented an excellent presentation for the lab, showed a deep knowledge of metabolism and physiology. Clearly showed to be a motivated self-starter with the right level of commitment for the role. Abdul shows to be the ideal candidate for this position.	84,5	1

*Handwritten initials/signature*

## Declaração de inexistência de conflito de interesses (CDI)

Os membros do júri do Concurso para Atribuição de 1 (uma) uma Bolsa de Investigação Pós-Doutoramento, Ref.<sup>a</sup> IMM/BIPD/21-2022, aberto ao abrigo do projeto "***Exploring the hidden life of African trypanosomes: parasite fat tropism and implications for disease***" (GA771714 - FatTryp), vêm por este meio declarar que não se encontram em situação de conflito de interesses que os impeça de participar no respetivo processo de seleção e atribuição de bolsa.

Declaram também manter a confidencialidade ao longo do processo de avaliação.

Lisboa, 26 de Julho de 2022



Luisa Figueiredo (iMM)



Sara Silva Pereira (iMM)



Helena Cabaço (iMM)