

OPEN CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

A call for expression of interest is now open for the attribution of a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship within the scope of the project “CureCSB - Development of a Gene-Replacement Therapy for Cockayne Syndrome Type B”, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Biomedicine - Gene Therapy.

Admission Requirements:

- i) Hold a PhD degree obtained in the three years prior to the date of submission of the grant application and possess a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals an appropriate profile for the research and development activities to be carried out;
- ii) Had carried out the research work that led to the attribution of a doctoral degree in an entity other than the host of the scholarship (AD-ABC);
- iii) Do not exceed, with the conclusion of the contract in question, including possible renewals, a cumulative period of three years in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated.

Applicants eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Background of “CureCSB Project”: Cockayne Syndrome (CS) is a rare autosomal recessive disorder arising from a mutation in the ERCC6 gene (excision repair cross-complementation group 6; or CSB; 70-80% of the patients) or ERCC8 gene (or CSA), which encode two distinct proteins. Clinically, CS is categorized in 3 types, with severity ranging from mild to severe and a life expectancy varying from 5 to 30 years. Despite several advances in the comprehension of the molecular mechanisms behind CS pathophysiology, significant efforts aiming to develop a potential therapeutic approach for CS are still lacking.

Work plan and objectives to be achieved: The successful candidate will develop research in the scope of the CureCSB project, whose main objective is to develop a gene-replacement therapy approach in a basic preclinical setting, using adeno-associated vectors (AAVs) for gene delivery. The project will cover aspects ranging from literature review, molecular biology and cell culture experiments and assessing potential toxicity and safety of the functional AVVs developed.

The following are preferential factors: research experience in molecular biology and/or cell culture; domain the English and/or Portuguese languages.

Selection criteria will be as follows: The evaluation of the candidates will focus on the evaluation of the scientific and curricular background of the candidates and may include an interview.

The contractor reserves the right to terminate the expression of interested and selection processes at any time and without selecting a candidate.

Working place: The work will be carried out at the ABC-RI (Algarve Biomedical Center Research Institute), University of Algarve, building 2, 3rd floor, Gambelas Campus, Faro, under the scientific supervision of Professor Clévio Nóbrega.

Duration of the grant: The fellowship will have a duration of 12 months, eventually renewed until the end of the project.

Applicable Legislation and regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by the Law n° 40/2004, from 18 of August, conferred by the Decree Law 123/2019, from August 28th and Regulation of Research Studentships and Grants (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P..

Value of monthly maintenance allowance: The monthly maintenance allowance corresponds to 1686 euros in accordance with the stipend's values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) - <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), corresponding to the 1st level of discounts (for grants of 6 months or more) and Personal Accident Insurance.

Application deadline and submission: The call is open until 30.06.2022 and applications/expression of interest must be sent exclusively by e-mail to CureCSB@abcmedicalg.pt with the subject "PostDoc CureCSB" and accompanied by the following documents:

- Elements of the National Identity Card/Citizen Card/Passport/Visa/Title of Residence;
- Certificates of the academic degree(s) or the candidate's declaration of honour that the degree was obtained until the end of the term of application (if applicable);
- Curriculum Vitae of the candidate, in English;
- A motivation letter (in English), in which the candidate explains the reasons for his/her application/interest, presenting his/her scientific/professional background and how it fits in with the work he/she intends to develop in the research project;
- Two reference contacts;
- Other documents considered relevant to the assessment of the scientific and professional path.

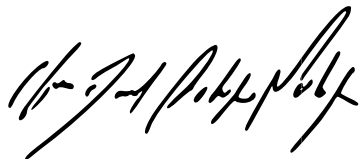
Regarding the above mentioned admissibility requirements, the following should be noted:

If the doctorate has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must conform to the rules established in Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of August 16, and all required formalities must be complied with up to the date of termination deadline for submission of the application. If the completed process is not found until the end of the application deadline, the candidate must prove that he / she has requested the recognition of the degree.

Notification of the results: Results will be communicated to the applicants by e-mail to the addresses indicated by each candidate.

Algarve Biomedical Center, 16th of May 2022

Scientific Coordinator



Clévio Nóbrega

Director of the Algarve Biomedical Center Research Institute