ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR THE SELECTION OF A RESEARCH TECHNICIAN

Internal code**: Technician/COMPETE2030/i3S/2411/2026**

A call is opened for the position of a Research Technician, for a fixed term work contract to carry out technical duties within the project "***BREAST_TO_BONE - The Influence of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Secretome in Bone Pre-Metastatic Reprogramming***", with reference COMPETE2030-FEDER-00686000 - 15753, funded by COMPETE2030 (MPr-2023).

Scientific Area: Oncobiology

1. Project summary and work plan
Approximately 40% of patients with triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) are diagnosed with bone metastases, which cause pain, fractures, and spinal cord compression, as well as poor quality of life and prognosis. Based on previous results, the aim of this project is to explore the role of TNBC-specific biomarkers (NGFR and ICAM1) in bone reprogramming and metastasis formation.

The selected research technician will have the following main tasks:

1) To evaluate the impact, *in vivo,* of the secretome of bone-tropic breast cancer cells on bone pre-metastatic niches and bone metastasis.
2) To evaluate, *in vitro*, the secretome uptake by bone resident cells;
3) To evaluate the expression of biomarkers in human samples, specifically in a series of primary tumors and corresponding metastases.

2. Jury
Chairman: Dr. Joana Paredes; Other Members: Dr. Ana Sofia Ribeiro, Dr. Bárbara Sousa; Substitute: Dr. Joana Figueiredo, Dr. Maria José Oliveira.

3. Workplace
i3S - Rua de Alfredo Allen, 208 Porto, research group research group Cancer Metastasis

4. Professional category and monthly remuneration
Research Technician N1 (11A), €1.381,35, subject to taxes and other mandatory deductions.

5. Obligatory requirements for admission
a) Bachelor in Biology, Biochemistry, Biomedicine or related areas
b) Motivation Letter
c) Experience in (i) *in vitro* and *in vivo* cancer models; (ii) functional assays in oncobiology; (iii) tumor pathology
d) Capacity to perform team work and good social skills;

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COMPETE 2030
PORTUGAL 2030
Co-funded by the European Union

e) Ability to communicate proficiently in English (written and spoken).

Preferencial:

a) Lab experience with breast cancer models with metastatic tropism (in vivo and in vitro)
b) Training on Bioinformatics (*Python* and *machine learning*) and statistics;
c) Participation in activities of scientific dissemination;
d) Immediate availability to start the contract.

6. Evaluation of the applications and publication of the results

Weight of the different curricular valuation criteria

a) Research experience, being valorised its relevance for this project work plan (70%)
b) Publications in oncobiology (5%)
c) Training courses on areas that are relevant for the project (5%)
d) Motivation letter (10%)
e) Interview (10%)

If needed, the evaluation panel may invite the most highly ranked candidates (up to 3) for an interview.

The final classification system for candidates is expressed on a scale from 0 to 100. Candidates who are not interviewed will receive a maximum score of 90%.

Candidates are excluded from admission to this call if they do not fill out their application correctly or do not meet the obligatory admission requirements. If in doubt, the jury may ask any candidate additional documents in support of their statements.

False statements made by candidates will be sanctioned in accordance with the law.

The jury will draw up minutes of its meetings, which can be consulted at the candidate's request within 10 working days after the selection results are released.

The jury deliberates by means of a justified vote according to the evaluation criteria, with no abstentions allowed, and draws up a list of excluded and admitted candidates, ranked by the respective classification after the curricular evaluation. Candidates will be notified of the results by email.

After publication of the ranking list, if their wish to do so, the candidates have 10 working days to submit comments.

In the 90 days following the deadline for submission of applications, the institute Director, who is also responsible for the final decision of hiring, will ratify the decision of the jury.

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This call is intended exclusively to fill the indicated position on offer and may be canceled before the final ranking list of candidates is ratified by the Director. Accordingly, the position will no longer be available.

7. Submission of applications

Applications must include all the documents proving that they fulfill the admission requirements, namely:

a) Copy of Bachelor certificate or diploma;
b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
c) Motivation letter;
d) Other relevant documents to evaluate the application;

The submission of applications is digital, in pdf format, from 23rd November to 9th December 2026, in the following link:

https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/d2f52091ac5688f98bf4b2b278e6507f

8. Start and duration of the contract

The anticipated start date of the contract is 16/01/2027 and is subject to budget availability. The maximum duration of the contract will be 11 months.

9. Non-discrimination and equal access policy

i3S actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access. No applicant shall be privileged, benefited, prejudiced, or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty on the basis of ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs, or trade union membership.

Within the framework of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, i3S adopts the Open, Transparent and Merit-based (OTM-R) principles for the recruitment of researchers, with the aim of conducting fair and transparent recruitment processes, bringing equal opportunities to all candidates.

10. Applicants with disabilities

Under the terms of Decree-Law 29/2001, of February 3, the candidate with a disability is given preference in equal ranking, which takes precedence over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare under oath their degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the aforementioned decree.

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