



NOTICE OF OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR THE SELECTION OF A PhD HOLDER RESEARCHER

Internal code: Researcher/HORIZON_FLAVIVACCINE /i3S/0306/2025

A call is opened for the position of a PhD holder, for an unfixed term work contract to carry out research duties within the project "**FLAVIVACCINE - Development and characterization of a pan-flavivirus vaccine candidate**", with reference 101137006, funded by European Commission, through the measure Hop-on facility (HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-06).

Scientific Area: RNA biology

1. Project summary and work plan

Several mosquito-borne flaviviruses with pandemic potential lack effective vaccines, and where vaccines do exist, they often have limitations in terms of safety, efficacy, or accessibility. The ambitious FLAVIVACCINE proposal aims at improving EU pandemic preparedness by developing an innovative broad-spectrum vaccine candidate against multiple mosquito-borne flaviviruses with epidemic potential. i3S will fulfil several scientific requirements for the success of the project including the development of an mRNA vaccine platform, specifically, the design and production of optimized mRNAs with regulatory sequences.

2. Applicable Portuguese legislation

Portuguese Labor Code, in its current wording.

3. Jury

Chairman: Alexandra Moreira; Other Members: Liliana Oliveira, Joana Tavares; Substitute: José Carlos Bessa.

4. Workplace

i3S - Rua de Alfredo Allen, 208 Porto, research group Gene Regulation.

5. Professional category and monthly remuneration

Assistant Researcher

€ 3.501,28, corresponding to index 195 of the Tabela Remuneratória Única, whose application is intended for PhD holders with post-doctoral experience.

6. Obligatory requirements for admission

- PhD degree in Biomedicine or related areas;
- More than 10 years of post-doctoral experience;
- Previous experience and solid knowledge in the area of RNA Biology, namely in regulation of gene expression and mRNA vaccines optimization;
- Hands-on experience in advanced molecular biology methodologies, including: RNA extraction from primary human cells, tissues and cell lines, gene expression analyses (RT-qPCR, library preparation for RNA-seq and data analysis), subcloning,

INSTITUTO
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
E INOVAÇÃO
EM SAÚDE
UNIVERSIDADE
DO PORTO



**Funded by
the European Union**

Rua Alfredo Allen, 208
4200-135 Porto
Portugal
+351 226 074 900
info@i3s.up.pt
www.i3s.up.pt

in vitro transcription, CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing, RNAi, recombinant protein production and analysis (western blot, ELISA); cell culture.

- e) Animal-research certificate functions A+B+D, former FELASA C;
- f) Publications as corresponding author in internationally recognized peer-reviewed journals;
- g) Experience in securing competitive research funding, leading research projects grants and teams;
- h) Experience in international research projects;
- i) Experience in supervising or co-supervising doctoral and master's students;
- j) Motivation Letter in English indicating availability to start duties on July 16, 2025.

7. Evaluation of the applications and publication of the results

The evaluation of the scientific and curricular background of the candidates should focus on the activity of the last five years that the candidate considers most relevant. The five-year period may be extended by the jury, at the candidate's request, when justified by suspension of scientific activity for socially protected reasons, namely for reasons of parental leave, prolonged serious illness, and other situations of unavailability for work that are legally protected.

Weight of the different curricular valuation criteria:

- a) Detailed Curricula (70%):
 - a. Previous experience in scientific research areas related to the project (20%);
 - b. Publication track record relevant to the field in question (10%);
 - c. Experience in leading research projects and ability to raise competitive funding (10%);
 - d. Experience in RNA extraction from primary human cells, tissues and cell lines, gene expression analyses (RT-qPCR, library preparation for RNA-seq and data analysis), subcloning, *in vitro* transcription, CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing, RNAi, recombinant protein production and analysis (western blot, ELISA); cell culture (20%);
 - e. Experience in PhD and master student supervision (10%);
- b) Motivation Letter in English (10 %);
- c) Interview - *facultative* (20%).

If the jury decides to obtain further clarifications and additional information about the curricular elements presented, the 2 best candidates classified may be called for an interview.

Candidates who submit their application incorrectly or fail to meet the required qualifications for this competition will be excluded from admission.

The jury reserves the right to request any candidate, in case of doubt, to provide supporting documents for 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 reasoned vote according to the evaluation criteria, with no abstentions allowed, and draws up a list of excluded and admitted candidates, ordered by respective classification.

All candidates are notified of the selection results by email. After notification, candidates have 10 working days to comment.

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

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.

8. Submission of applications

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

- a) Copy of PhD certificate or diploma;
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Motivation Letter in English, stating availability to start duties on July 16, 2025;
- d) Certificate for functions A+B+D, former FELASA C;
- d) Other documentation relevant for the evaluation of qualifications in a related scientific area.

The submission of applications is digital, in pdf format, from 03/06/2025 to 17/06/2025, in the following link:

<https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/15f991f2072b4c7f3eba71834564a9f>

9. Start and duration of the contract

The anticipated start date of the contract is 16/07/2025 and is subject to budget availability. The maximum duration of the contract will be 24 months.

10. 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

INSTITUTO
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
E INOVAÇÃO
EM SAÚDE
UNIVERSIDADE
DO PORTO



**Funded by
the European Union**

Rua Alfredo Allen, 208
4200-135 Porto
Portugal
+351 226 074 900
info@i3s.up.pt
www.i3s.up.pt



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.

11. 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.



**Funded by
the European Union**

**INSTITUTO
DE INVESTIGAÇÃO
E INOVAÇÃO
EM SAÚDE**
UNIVERSIDADE
DO PORTO

Rua Alfredo Allen, 208
4200-135 Porto
Portugal
+351 226 074 900
info@i3s.up.pt
www.i3s.up.pt