

## OPENING NOTICE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURE TO SELECT A RESEARCH TECHNICIAN (M/F)

The IBMC/i3S opens a tender procedure for the selection of **1 Research Technician** within the project ImmunoHub: An Immunological Hub of Excellence in Porto tailored to fulfil the ERA Priorities AT IBMC/i3S, funded by the European Commission under the topic WIDESPREAD-2020-06 - ERA Chairs.

**INTERNAL REFERENCE:** RESEARCHTECHNICIAN/ERACHAIRIMMUNOHUB/IBMC/2611/2021

**SCIENTIFIC AREA:** Immunology- focus on Host Interaction and Response.

### WORKPLACE:

- **Institution:** IBMC/i3S – Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde, Rua de Alfredo Allen, 208, Porto.
- **Research group:** Immune Sensing & Signaling Dynamics.
- **Group Leader:** Pedro Moura Alves.

### PROJECT SUMMARY:

The overall project is focused on dissecting the role of the Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor (AHR) as a dynamic and key sensor of the microenvironment and homeostasis (focus on host-microbe interactions and cancer), capable of fine-tuning different cellular responses in a timely and controlled manner, tailored to the nature and extent of the insult, and the cellular and tissue context.

Training will be available in all aspects of the work, especially in protocols relating to the study of host-microbe interactions using diverse *in vitro* and *in vivo* models. You will have an adaptable approach to work and a willingness to tackle a variety of tasks. Support and troubleshooting guidance will be available. However, after induction, an ability to work without supervision, combining a structured and organised approach with enthusiasm will be important. You will work closely with other lab members performing diverse tasks related to various projects from the laboratory or in collaboration with other laboratories.

**TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- To participate in the ImmunoHub funded research programme led by Dr. Pedro Moura Alves.
- To be responsible for: overseeing the daily housekeeping of the laboratory (e.g., management and preparation stocks and solutions, maintenance and generation of different cell lines; ordering); keeping an updated database of the reagents and tools existent in the laboratory; performing any other comparable duties as may be required to ensure the efficient running of the laboratory.
- To supervise and train junior staff and new coming lab members in the laboratory cell/molecular biology/biochemistry techniques and help prepare and keep an updated record of the laboratory SOPs.
- To operate laboratory equipment used for all aspects of cell/molecular biology/biochemistry.
- To be responsible with others for the biological safety of the laboratory and the general laboratory running rules.
- To communicate with Dr. Pedro Moura Alves and other group members as required, ensuring that they are kept entirely up to date with laboratory duties.
- To participate in and contribute directly to scientific discussions with other members of the research group and collaborators both on the project and contributing ideas for future research projects.
- To maintain confidentiality regarding research data when interacting with non-collaborating researchers.
- To attend appropriate scientific seminars, training opportunities and meetings in the Institute and University.
- Once trained, the post holder's performance will be continually monitored to ensure that the required standard of accuracy and efficiency is maintained.

**CONTRACTUAL TERMS:** Working contract under the Portuguese Labour Law and the monthly remuneration of €1.495,28 (before taxes). Expect starting date: 1st February 2022.

**SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- **Mandatory Admission Criteria:**
  - Minimum of 5 years' experience as a Technical Assistant.
  - Previous laboratory and research experience.
  - Experience in tissue/cell culture.
  - Fluent (writing and speaking) in both Portuguese and English.

- **Essential Selection Criteria:**
  - Master's degree in biology/Biomedicine/Biochemistry or related discipline (Degree must be obtained before starting the position).
  - Experience with lentiviral vectors, namely in viral production and transduction/infection protocols.
  - Experience in High Throughput Screening (HTS), preferably with small molecules.
  - Experience in cloning, plasmid generation, isolation and transfection protocols.
  - Experience in RNAi/CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing.
  - Experience in molecular and cellular biology techniques (e.g., RNA/DNA isolation, cDNA synthesis, Western blot, Quantitative real-time PCR).
  - Experience in preparation and management of laboratory working solutions, stocks and orders.
  - Experience in elaborating, recording and updating laboratory SOPs.
  - Experience in the implementation of laboratory guidelines and safety rules.
  - Good attention to detail.
  - The ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- **Desirable Selection Criteria:**
  - Minimum of 7 years' experience as a Technical Assistant.
  - Experience in 2D and 3D cell cultures.
  - Experience in mouse and zebrafish models (e.g., xenografts, handling, embryo/larval injections and microscopy).
  - Knowledge and implementation of laboratory safety guidelines.
  - Publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and participation/communication in scientific meetings.

#### EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR INTERVIEW SELECTION:

- Fulfil all the mandatory admission criteria.
- Detailed CV (90%)- Scientific background and experience in the areas listed above on essential and desirable criteria:
  - Experience as Technical Assistant, laboratory and scientific research (15%).
  - Experience in cell culture, HTS, Lentiviral vectors, cloning and plasmid preparation and transfection protocols, CRISPR-Cas and RNAi, Molecular and cellular biology techniques (50%).
  - Experience in laboratory management (preparation of stocks, solutions and orders), SOPs, implementation of laboratory guidelines and safety rules (15%).
  - Desirable criteria (10%).
- Motivation letter (10%)- Interest and motivation for the area where the hiring profile fit in and availability to start the contract.

**APPLICATIONS, DEADLINES AND DOCUMENTS:**

- Certificate or diploma copy.
- Curriculum vitae.
- Other documentation relevant for the evaluation of qualifications in a related scientific area.
- Contact details of minimum 2 referees (referees will be contacted, if needed, only after the interview process).
- Motivation letter (1 A4 page maximum).

Candidates shall submit their application filing the required information and supporting documentation, in a digital form, in PDF format, from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, through [the link: https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/RESEARCHTECHNICIANERACHAIRIMMUNOHUBIBMC26112021](https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/RESEARCHTECHNICIANERACHAIRIMMUNOHUBIBMC26112021)

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

After analysis of the curriculum vitae and motivation letter, candidates are ranked, considering the admission requirements. The 2 best candidates in the curricular evaluation will be selected for interview. Curriculum evaluation, previous experience in fields and techniques relevant to the project, and interview will have the final weights of 35%, 35%, and 30%, respectively.

**EVALUATION PANEL:**

Pedro Moura Alves (President)  
Eurico Morais de Sá  
Ana Campos

**RESULTS:**

The list of admitted and excluded candidates and the final ranking list are published on the website of the institute [www.ibmc.up.pt](http://www.ibmc.up.pt) at Open Positions, and the candidates will be notified by email. Candidates have 10 working days to comment.

This tender is exclusively destined to fill this specific vacancy and can be terminated at any time until approval of final candidate list, expiring with the respective occupation of said vacancy.