

**ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL SELECTION TENDER  
PROCEDURE FOR DOCTORATE HIRING OF DECREE-LAW NO. 57/2016 OF 29 AUGUST,  
amended by 57/2017 Law of 19 July.**

**Internal Reference:** RESEARCHER/FCT\_PROJ2017/IBMC/2209/2021

1. The meeting of the Board of Directors of IBMC deliberated the opening of an international selection tender for 1 vacancy of doctorate to perform duties of scientific research in the scientific area(s) of Health Sciences - Parasitology, under a work contract with non-fixed term under the Portuguese labor Law in order to perform duties, as researcher within the project with the reference PTDC/SAU-PAR/31340/2017 and the title “Blocking the progression of *Plasmodium* sporozoites from the skin to the liver” at IBMC, financed by FEDER - Fundo Europeu de Desenvolvimento Regional funds through the COMPETE 2020 - Operacional Programme for Competitiveness and Internationalisation (POCI), Portugal 2020, and by Portuguese funds through FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia/Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Ensino Superior.

2. Project summary:

Malaria is the deadliest parasitic disease in the world. The most advanced vaccine confers only moderate protection. To contribute for the development of subunit malaria vaccines targeting *Plasmodium* sporozoites (the parasite stage inoculated in the skin by a female mosquito during a blood meal) we propose to improve CSP-based vaccination strategies by dissecting the mechanisms that confer sterile protection in mice vaccinated with CSP and RIG-I adjuvants. We also propose to discover sporozoites immunogens that are targeted by antibodies capable of blocking sporozoites infection in the mammalian host. For that, specific immune repertoires generated in mice following immunizations with radiation-attenuated sporozoites were combined with Fab phage-display technology. Fab recognizing molecules on the surface of sporozoites besides the immunodominant CSP will be screened for their ability to block infection. The identified antibody fragments will be then used to identify the respective antigens.

Tasks in which the applicant will be involved: The selected applicant will be involved in the discovery of antigens targeted by infection blocking antibodies.

3. Applicable Legislation

- Decree-Law no. 57/2016 of 29 August, amended by Law 57/2017 of 19 July, which approved the doctorate hiring regime destined to stimulate scientific and technological employment for all knowledge areas (RJEC),
- Portuguese labor law
- Regulatory Decree Nr 11-A / 2017, of 29th December.

4. Pursuant to article 13 of RJEC, the tender selection panel shall be formed by:

President:

Joana Tavares

Other members:

Anabela Cordeiro-da-Silva

Nuno Santarém

5. Workplace shall be at IBMC, Rua Alfredo Allen, 208, Porto. Group: Host-Parasite Interactions

6. Monthly remuneration: Gross monthly Remuneration is 2.134,73€, in accordance with subsection a), section 1, article 15 from Law nr 57/2017, 19th July, and with the remuneration position at initial level predicted in article 2 of Regulatory Decree nr 11-A/2017, of 29th December, correspondent to level 33 at Tabela Remuneratória Única, approved by Order nr 1553-C/2008, 31st December, with the category Junior Researcher.

7. Any national, foreign and stateless candidate(s) who hold a doctorate degree in Biology and a scientific and professional curriculum whose profile is suited for the activity to be performed can submit their applications. In the event the doctorate degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, said degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 341/2007 of 12 October, and all formalities established therein must be complied with at the application deadline.

8. The tender admission requirements are:

- Participation in research projects;
- Experience in research involving animals particularly valuable when in the context of vaccination and infection using rodent models;  
Experience with real-time imaging techniques in animal models to assess the progress of infection;
- Experience on infection and maintenance of mosquitoes with *P. berghei* and/or *P. yoelii* and in dissecting salivary glands;
- Holder of a course equivalent to FELASA B or C and the respective personal license granted by the DGAV;
- Fluent in written and spoken English;

9. Pursuant to article 5 of RJEC, selection is to be made based on candidate scientific and curricular career evaluation.

10. Scientific and curricular career evaluation focuses on relevance, quality and up-to-dateness:

a) of scientific, technological, cultural or artistic production in the last five years, deemed most relevant by the candidate;

b) of research activities, applied or based on practical work, developed in the last five years, deemed most impactful by the candidate;

c) of knowledge extension and dissemination activities developed in the last five years, namely under the scope of the promotion of culture and scientific practices, deemed most relevant by the candidate.

11. The five-year period mentioned above can be extended by the panel, if requested by the candidate, whenever the suspension of scientific activities is reasoned by socially protected grounds like paternity leave, long-term serious illness, and other legal situations of unavailability to work.

12. Evaluation criteria are the following:

a) Detailed CV:

- List of scientific publications and their impact factor (25%);

- Participation in research projects (15%);

- Relevant research experience in the project area (30%);

b) Letter of motivation:

- Interest and motivation for the research area of the project (15%);

- Proficiency in English and written communication (5%);

c) Interview (10%)

13. Candidate final classification system shall be given based on a scale 0-100.

14. The panel shall deliberate by means of roll-call vote justified under adopted and disclosed selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed.

15. Minutes of panel meetings shall be executed and shall include a summary of all occurrences of said meeting, as well as of all votes casted by the members and respective reasoning, and shall be provided to candidates whenever required.

16. After selection criteria application, the panel shall prepare a sorted list of approved candidates and respective classification.

17. Panel's final decision shall be validated by the leader of the institution, who is also in charge of deciding about the hiring.

18. Application formalization:

18.1 Applications shall include all supported documents encompassed by section 7 and 8 for tender admission, namely:

- a) Certificate or diploma copy;
- b) Curriculum vitae, detailed and structured pursuant to sections 10 and 12;
- c) Other documentation relevant for the evaluation of qualifications in a related scientific area;
- d) motivation letter (in English – mandatory)

18.2 Candidates shall submit their application filling in the required information and supporting documentation, in a digital form, in PDF format, from the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021 link:

[https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/RESEARCHERFCT\\_PROJ2017IBMC22092021](https://dozer.i3s.up.pt/applicationmanagement/#/addapplications/RESEARCHERFCT_PROJ2017IBMC22092021)

19. All candidates who formalize their applications in an improper way or fail to prove the requirements imposed by this tender are excluded from admission. In case of doubt, the panel is entitled to request any candidate to present further documentation supporting their statements.

20. False statements provided by the candidates shall be punished by law.

21. Both admitted and excluded candidate list and final classification list shall be published in the website of the Institute and the candidates are notified by email.

After publication, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel's final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 days, from the application deadline, published at IBMC website.

The expected starting date is 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

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

23. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: IBMC actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race,

origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

24. The panel has approved this announcement in meeting held on 22/09/2021.

25. Pursuant to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.