

**IBMC - Instituto de Biologia Molecular e Celular**

**Research assistant Fellowship (f/m)**

**Internal Code:** NORTE2020CANCER12

**Project:** NORTE-01-0145-FEDER-000029- Advancing cancer research: from basic knowledge to application

**Title:** Chemical screen for transcriptional suppressors of the pancreas oncogene KRAS

IBMC/i3S is opening **1 (one) starting Research Assistant Fellowship (BIC)** to join its Research Program in Cancer.

We are looking for a starting research assistant fellow holding a degree in Biology or related fields, with experience and full autonomy working in zebrafish handling and husbandry, zebrafish microinjection and transgenesis. Good inter-personal relationships in the context of a multidisciplinary research team are essential attributes. Preference will be given to candidates with these characteristics.

**Group and PI:**

Vertebrate Development and Regeneration

Jose Bessa

**Work Plan:**

In this project we will use the zebrafish as a model to screen chemical compounds that suppress the activity of *cis*-regulatory elements (CREs) involved in the transcription of *KRAS*. To reach this goal, we will first apply genome wide techniques to detect putative *cis*-regulators of *kras* active in the zebrafish pancreas. Then we will test their CRE potential using transgenic reporter assays. Validated CREs will be used to establish stable transgenic *in vivo* reporter lines that will be used in a high-throughput chemical screen to identify suppressors of CRE's activity. Chemical compounds identified in this screen will be then validated in adult zebrafish and mice.

The strategy adopted in this project uses the most updated comprehension on *cis*-transcriptional regulation of genes as a tool to identify drugs that suppress the transcription of *KRAS*. Thus, the expected outcome of this project is to identify drugs that target distinct components involved in the *cis*-regulation of *KRAS* in the pancreas and that, when combined, may efficiently suppress Kras activity in a tissue specific synergistic manner.

The fellow will help in these tasks.

The work will be developed at Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde - i3S, Porto, Portugal.

The **starting Research Assistant** Fellowship will be for 3 months, and it is expected to start in July 15th 2016.

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The fellowship amount is 385 euros, paid by bank transfer, preferentially.  
(<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>)

Fellowships are regulated by current laws relating to the Statute of Science Research Fellows, namely Law 40/2004 of August 18, amended and republished by Decree-Law No. 202/2012 of 27 August and the Regulation of Scientific Research Studentships of IBMC approved by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia  
(<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf>)

Selection Committee:

Carla Lopes, PhD

Renata Freitas, PhD

Jose Bessa, PhD

Applications are open from June 29th to July 5th, 2016.

To apply for the starting Research Assistant Fellowship, interested candidates must submit the following documents a) Complete CV and b) Letter of Motivation, *via* the online application system:

<http://www.ibmc.up.pt/gestaocandidaturas/index.php?codigo=NORTE2020CANCER12>

Results will be published at IBMC website, and the selected candidate will be notified by email.