

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

**Master Degree fellowship (f/m)**

**Internal Code:** Norte2020CANCER21

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

**Title:** The HOXOME of cancer

IBMC/i3S is opening **1 (one) Fellowship** to join its Research Program in Cancer Biology. We are looking for a Fellow holding a Master Degree in Biology, Biochemistry or related fields with experience and full autonomy in working in Molecular and Cellular Biology. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in cell culture, subsequent RNA/DNA/protein extractions and expression analyses by RT-PCR and Western-Blot. English language, both spoken and written, and good inter-personal relationships in the context of a multidisciplinary research team are essential attributes.

**Group:** Cell Growth and Differentiation

**Team leader:** Renata Freitas

**Work Plan:**

HOX genes play a crucial role during embryonic development, regulating a variety of processes that include cell proliferation and death, cell-to-cell signaling, differentiation and motility. However, aberrations in their expression have been reported not only during abnormal development but also in malignancy. Indeed, the current *state of the art*, strongly suggest that altered HOX gene expression leads, in distinct contexts, to both oncogenesis and tumor suppression. Therefore, studies aiming to characterize the function of HOX genes are absolutely fundamental in cancer diagnosis and therapy. HOXB7 and HOXB8 genes are commonly overexpressed in breast cancer cells. Our aim in this project is to uncover the impact of these gene expression impairments during breast cancer progression, performing functional assays in cell lines and confirming our results in human tissues. Overall, this project offers an opportunity to translate basic research into clinically relevant information, improving the medical intervention in cancer treatment.

The work will be developed at Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde - i3S, Porto, Portugal. The Master Degree Fellowship will be for an initial period of 6 months, renewable up to 10 months, and it is expected to start in December 1st 2017.

The fellowship amount is 980 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

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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:

José Bessa, PhD

Carla Lopes, PhD

Renata Freitas, PhD

Applications are open from November 1st to November 15th, 2017.

To apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowship interested candidates must hold a PhD degree and submit the following documents a) Complete CV; b) Letter of Motivation; and c) Referee Letter, *via* the online application system:

<http://www.ibmc.up.pt/gestaocandidaturas/index.php?codigo=Norte2020CANCER21>

The ranking list of candidates will be published at IBMC website, and the selected candidate will be notified by email.