

Post-doctoral Fellowship (M/F)

Title of the Project: Exploring TOR/PI3K kinases as targets for treating protozoan neglected tropical diseases (PTDC/QEQMED/7097/2014), project funded by FCT)

Internal Reference: PR441601

Working place: Molecular Parasitology, I3S (Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde, Universidade do Porto, Rua Alfredo Allen, 208, Porto) supervised by Dr. Ana Tomás

Summary of work program: Leishmaniasis defines a spectrum of neglected diseases, ranging from non-lethal cutaneous to a deadly visceral condition, caused by *Leishmania* parasites that affect about 12 million people worldwide. In Portugal, they are relevant mainly in immunosuppressed patients but constitute a major veterinary problem in dogs. Current practices to treat leishmaniasis rely on inadequate chemotherapeutics and new drugs are urgently needed. The overall aim of this project is to contribute to the development of new chemotherapeutic agents and formulations to treat Leishmaniasis by exploiting the TOR/PI3K kinases of *Leishmania* parasites.

Candidate profile: We are looking for a high motivated and independent fellow holding a PhD degree in Biochemistry, Biology, Microbiology or related area that has less than three years of Postdoctoral experience and has never been supported by a Post-Doc Fellowship directly from FCT, and has at least one paper as first author in peer-reviewed journals. Prior experience in molecular and cellular parasitology and microscopy and a license to work with animals (FELASA) are attributes positively considered.

Application procedure: Applications should include a letter of motivation, *curriculum vitae* and a short description of research achievements as well as contacts for two references and PhD Certificate. They must be submitted between the **23rd November and the 9th of December 2016** on the IBMC webpage: <http://www.ibmc.up.pt/gestao candidaturas/index.php?codigo=PR441601>

Legislation and applicable laws: Fellowships at the IBMC is regulated by current laws relating to the Statute of Science Research Fellows of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, I.P. - 2015, 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 the IBMC approved by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (www.ibmc.up.pt/fellowships.php)

Evaluation of applications:

The candidates with the required profile will be selected based on the written documentation (CV (35%), motivation letter (5%) and references (10%)). The most qualified candidates from the initial selections will be then subjected to a final selection step based on a personal interview (50% to sum up with the evaluation of the written documents).

Jury: President – Ana Tomás (PhD); Ordinary members – Margarida Duarte (PhD) and Helena Castro (PhD).

Results: the final results are announced at the IBMC web site, and the approved candidate contacted via e-mail.

Grant conditions:

The fellowship is expected to start in the 15th of Decemberr, 2016 and will be awarded for 18 months. The monthly amount of the fellowship is € 1495.00 (<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>), preferentially paid by bank transfer.

The selected candidates will benefit from an excellent research environment, and have access to state of the art facilities for advanced light microscopy.