

Open Call for a Research Fellowship under the Project PTDC/BIA-MIC/6990/2020

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications to a Research Fellowship within the project PTDC/BIA-MIC/6990/2020, entitled: “Manipulating Quorum Sensing to promote Muribaculum resilience in gut microbiota dysbiosis” financed by FCT/MEC through national funds (PIDDAC), with the following conditions:

1. Duration The fellowship duration according to the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#) approved by FCT is 12 months, with the possibility of renewal until the end of the project or until the end date of the project’s possible renewal. The fellowship contract is expected to start by December 2022, under the exclusiveness regime as required by Research Fellowship Regulation of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT).

2. Subject of Activities: The selected candidate will be working on the Identification of the molecular basis of the quorum sensing response mediated by AI-2 in bacteria of the Muribaculacea family and Bacteroides, important members of the mammalian microbiota. The goal of this project is to understand the role of bacterial signaling mediated by quorum sensing mechanisms in recovery of gut microbiota after perturbations caused by antibiotics. The selected candidate will learn how to genetically manipulate bacteria from the microbiota and will be providing technical support to the animal experiments with mice as animal models executed in the context of the project.

3. Scientific Guidance: The selected candidate will join the Bacterial signalling Lab (<https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/research-groups/kxavier/>) headed by Dr. Karina Xavier.

4. Academic Profile and Admission Requirements: Master’s degree in Biology, Biochemistry, or related scientific area. The desired candidate should have master’s degree in biology, biochemistry or related areas, with the possibility of enrolling in non-academic degree courses. Preference will be given to candidates with interesse in microbiology, structural biology, molecular biology in bacteria, and/or in studies involving microbe-host interactions.

Additionally, we will prefer candidates with:

- i) Ability to work individually and in a team;
- ii) Good communication skills, including a good level of spoken and written English, allowing good communication and work in an international environment;
- iii) High level of initiative and rigor;
- iv) High level of commitment and collaboration.

According to article 3, point 2 of IGC Research Fellowship Regulation, the selected candidate must be enrolled in a PhD program or in another non-academic degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, under the terms of the provisions of article 25.º of Decree-Law n.º 66/2018, of August 16th (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>), which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of n.º 2 of article 4.º of Decree-Law n.º 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act. The jury reserves the right to invite the candidate ranked immediately after to the position in question when the first ranked candidate is not recognized with the academic degree after the aforementioned formalities have been fulfilled.

The documents proving the title of academic degrees or diplomas, or enrollment in an academic degree or diploma, may be dispensed with during the application stage, being replaced by a declaration of honor from the candidate, and it is mandatory to verify this condition during the fellowship contracting stage.

Financiado por:

5. For Portuguese taxpayers: All candidates that where/are currently taxpayers in Portugal are required to present evidence of the fulfillment of their individual obligations towards the Portuguese Tax Authority and Social Security. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered as a criteria for exclusion from the recruitment process.

6. Applicable legislation and Regulation: All candidates must comply with the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#); [Research Fellowship Statutes](#) amended by [Decree n° 123/2019](#) of August 28th; [FCT Legislation and Regulations for Fellowships](#) and the [Decree-Law n.º 66/2018](#), of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions)

7. Subsidy Month Stipend: 1.144,64€/month according to the table of monthly maintenance allowance amounts set out in Annex I of [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#). The payment will be made by bank transfer. The selected candidate will be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to the Voluntary Social Security contribution.

8. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications: Interested candidates should send their applications to igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt in a single PDF file, named “**Applicant name_BI_6990_BAS**”, containing: Motivation Letter (2 page max); Curriculum Vitae (2 pages max) whit contacts of two references, stating whether these could be approached and proof of degree. After a pre-analysis of applications, selected candidates will be invited for an interview.

9. Methods of Selection and Evaluation: The selection procedure shall be as follows: Curriculum (60%), reference letters (15%), motivation letter (25%). If a second selection step is found necessary by the jury, shortlisted candidates will be interviewed (interview 35% + 65% first step evaluation).

10. Jury Selection: Chairman: Dr. Karina Xavier. Other members: Dr. Vitor Cabral and Dr. Tanja Dapa. Substitute member: Dr. Isabel Gordo.

11. Form of Advertising / Notification of results: The assessment results will be sent to all candidates and to the FCT by email. There will be 10 working days for complaints/appeals after the date of publication of the Selection Minute, through the same application email.

12. Application Period: From 21/11/2022 until 15/12/2022.

13. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefitted, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exemptof any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, 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.