**Research Grant (BI), for the conduct of R&D activities by a PhD student**

**ref.ª DAI/2021/18** **- 1 vacancy**

There is an open call for applications for a Research Grant (BI), for the conduct of R&D activities by a PhD student, under reference DAI/2021/18, in the scope of the project ERC-2018-STG 804229 - LIMBo, at the institution CEDOC - Chronic Diseases Research Centre (*Centro de Estudos de Doenças Crónicas*) from Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School (FCM|NMS), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (UNL), financed by income from the above mentioned project with support of international funds through the European Research Council, under the following conditions:

**Field of study:** Biochemistry and cellular biology

**Admission requirements** **(eligibility criteria):**

- Bachelor Degree (“*Licenciado*”) or Master Degree in the area of Biomedical research or related fields;

- Enrolment in a PhD in the area of life sciences or related fields or intend to enter one. (The Proof of enrolment in a PhD Degree could be obtained until contracting. The assessment made here will only take into account if the candidates meet the conditions for enroling in a PhD Degree in accordance with the work plan of the grant.);

- Experience in mammalian cell culture;

- Holder of certificate course on Laboratory Animal Science in Mouse (Functions A+D in Laboratory Animal Science).

**Work plan:**

The BI to be recruited will work with both in vitro and in vivo Parkinson’s disease models. It is intended to study the molecular mechanisms mediating the effects of low-molecular weight (poly)phenol metabolites on brain cells, particularly the cross talk between neurons and microglial cells and see how they can mitigate either inflammatory or oxidative insults. In parallel, an animal trial will be considered to translate the beneficial effects of a nutritional intervention with berries in an animal model of Parkinson’s disease.

**Legislation and applicable regulations**:

The fellowship is legally framed by the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (Law 40/2004, of August 18) and the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships in force.

**Place of work**:

The work will be carried out at *Molecular Nutrition and Health* Group of CEDOC – Chronic Diseases Research Centre (*Centro de Estudos de Doenças Crónicas*) at Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School (FCM|NMS), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (UNL), under the scientific supervision of Doctor Cláudia Nunes dos Santos.

**Fellowship duration and predicted start date:**

The fellowship will last for 6 months and is expected to start on June 1, 2022.

The fellowship contract is eventually renewed for an equal period until the end of the project.

**Monthly Scholarship Amount:**

The monthly amount of the fellowship corresponds to € 1144.64 (one thousand one hundred and fourty-four euros and sixty-four cents), paid monthly by bank transfer, according to the table of stipend values of FCT, I.P., in the country.

**Selection Methods:**

The motivation letter and CV of the candidates will be evaluated according to the weighting of the factors indicated below.

Preferential Factors and assigned values in %:

- Experience in animal manipulation, surgery, and animal behaviour – 25%;

- Experience with molecular and imaging techniques is a plus – 25%;

- Motivation letter – 20%;

- Good command of the English language (both written and oral communication) – 10%;
- Critical thinking, good organizational and communication skills, and ability to work as a part of a team – 10%;

- Good interpersonal skills – 10%.

If the jury so wishes, can proceed with interview. Thus, the final evaluation will consist of 90% of previous curricular evaluation and 10% of the interview evaluation.

**Selection Jury:**

- Doctor Cláudia Nunes Santos, Principal Researcher, Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa – President of the Jury;

- Doctor Inês Figueira, PhD, Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa – 1st Effective Jury Member;

-Doctor Sandra Tenreiro, PhD, Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa – 2nd Effective Jury Member;

- Doctor Gabriela Silva, Assistant Professor, Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa – 1st Alternate Jury Member;

-Doctor Rita Teodoro, Invited Assistant Professor, Faculdade de Ciências Médicas|NOVA Medical School, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa – 2nd Alternate Jury Member.

**Form of publicizing/notifying the results:**

The results of the evaluation will be sent by email to the candidates who submitted the application within the deadline. The candidates will also be informed by email that if they wish to comment at the prior hearing, they should present their comments by email within 10 working days.

**Application deadline and form of presentation of applications:**

The call is open from 14th to 26th February (until 12:00 AM), 2022, and is published on <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/> and in <https://www.nms.unl.pt/en-us/NMS/Join-NMS/Recruiting> (Portuguese and English versions on this website).

Applications have to be submitted by email, to applications@nms.unl.pt, mentioning the reference DAI/2021/18 in the Subject of the message.

Applications are formalized by sending a Motivation Letter accompanied by the following documents: *Curriculum vitae*, Certificate of Qualifications, proof of inscription on a PhD Degree or statement on the CV or on the Motivation Letter saying that the candidate wants to enter a PhD Degree, and other supporting documents deemed relevant.

FCM|NMS reserves the right not to award the proposed grant if the candidates do not meet the requirements indicated in this announcement.

Lisboa, February 7, 2022