

Research Fellowship

Project: "Life and death of retinal ganglion cells: unmasking the neuromodulatory and neuroprotective roles of Neuropeptide Y" (Ref: PTDC/SAU-NEU/099075/2008), funded by Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and FEDER.

Research field: Vision Sciences/Neuroscience.

Job description: The selected candidate will develop research work in the field of Cellular and Molecular Biology, related with the above mentioned Project, at Center of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, Institute of Biomedical Research in Light and Image (IBILI), Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra, and will integrate *Retinal Dysfunction Group*, a dynamic team, headed by Dr. António Francisco Ambrósio.

Glaucoma, the second cause of blindness, is a recent research interest of *Retinal Dysfunction Group*. The general main goals consist in elucidating the mechanisms underlying the dysfunction and death of retinal ganglion cells (which form the optic nerve) and identifying potential neuroprotective agents against ganglion cell degeneration. Several in vitro and animal models that will be specifically used in this project have been recently established.

Duration and Terms of the Activity: 12 months, eventually renewable to a maximum of 36 months, starting on September 1st 2010.

Profile: The applicant should have a BSc (or MSc) in Biochemistry, Biology or related areas. Preference will be given to highly motivated applicants interested in a long-term fellowship, and with solid experience in cell culturing techniques and laboratory animal handling, as well as with experience in fluorescent microscopy. An English-speaking applicant is mandatory.

Evaluation Criteria: The evaluation will be based on the appreciation of the academic profile, research experience, and curriculum vitae. All admitted candidates will be additionally evaluated in a personal interview.

Monthly Stipend: 745 Euro.

Application Documents: Motivation letter, 2 recommendation letters (including contact information), Curriculum Vitae, copy of BSc (and MSc) certificate(s), and other documents considered to be relevant.

Application deadline: July 28, 2010. All applications must be sent by mail or email with the indication of Project Reference (PTDC/SAU-NEU/099075/2008) to:

Doutor António Francisco Ambrósio (or a/c Alda Gonçalves)

Centro de Oftalmologia e Ciências da Visão, IBILI

Azinhaga de Santa Comba

3004-548 Coimbra

Email: fambrosio@ibili.uc.pt