

Post-doctoral position Bioinformatics/Computational Systems Biology Faro, Portugal

Huntington's disease is the most common hereditary neurodegenerative disease with late onset and symptoms such as loss of motor control, cognitive decline and dementia. Although the disease causing mutation – an CAG repeat expansion in a single gene named huntingtin (htt) – is well known and can be accurately diagnosed, no cure for this devastating disease has been found yet.

For the computational study of the molecular networks involved Huntington's disease, we currently seek a highly motivated **bioinformatician/computational biologist**. The aim of the research project (founded by the CHDI foundation) is to elucidate causal mechanisms and to identify novel targets for therapy based on the integrated analysis of physical and regulatory interaction networks, gene expression and chromosomal location. One focus of this study will be the Unfolded Protein Response pathway and its activation during neurodegeneration. An additional goal is the construction of a database for the storage, query and visualization of biological data associated with Huntington's disease.

The position is placed in the newly established Laboratory of Bioinformatics and Systems Biology in Faro, Portugal. We seek to develop novel methods for the integration and analyses of data and information from divergent resources in molecular biology and medicine. Our newly established lab offers a stimulating environment for pursuing cutting-edge research. It is associated with the Institute for Biotechnology and Bioengineering (www.ibb.pt), a nation-wide research institution, and is part of the Center for Molecular and Structural Biomedicine (www.cbme.ualg.pt) at the University of Algarve which is located in Faro, a city that lies in the heart of one of the most beautiful coastal landscapes in Europe. For further information, please visit our website (www.cbme.ualg.pt/mfutschik_cbme.html) or contact Matthias Futschik (mfutschik@ualg.pt)

The post-doctoral candidate should have expertise and interest in statistical analyses of molecular networks, gene expression and SNP data. Knowledge in database management would be of advantage, but not necessary. Candidates should send by email a CV, letter of motivation and contacts for references to Dr. Matthias Futschik (mfutschik@ualg.pt).