



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute (IJC) endorses the Requirements and Principles of the European Charter for Researchers, the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, and Open, Transparent, Merit-based recruitment promoted by the European Commission and follows Equal Opportunities policies. On 9 July, 2019, IJC was awarded the "HR Excellence in Research" logo. This recognition reflects the commitment of the Institute to the continuous improvement of its human resources policies in line with the Charter & Code. The Institute works to ensure fair and transparent recruitment and appraisal procedure

PhD POSITION - LEUKEMIA STEM CELL (REF.: 2019/184)

The Josep Carreras Leukemia Research Institute (IJC) is a nonprofit research institute based in Barcelona and dedicated to advancing our understanding about leukemia and related disorders, in partnership with the University of Barcelona and University Autònoma of Barcelona. The IJC has laboratories in three clinical campuses: i) Clinic Hospital, ii) Sant Pau Hospital and iii) Germans Trias i Pujol Hospital. IJC serves as a collaborative hub for basic investigators and physicians to work together on fundamental biological and clinical aspects of leukemia. The IJC offers an excellent work environment built around a multi-disciplinary fusion of ideas and state-of-the-art facilities.

Research Description

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is a neoplasia characterized by the rapid expansion of immature myeloid blasts in the bone marrow. The course of the disease is marked by poor prognosis, frequent relapse, and high disease-related mortality. As such, new therapeutic approaches are required for remission induction and prevention of relapse. The difficulty in treating AML is thought to arise from a chemoresistant subpopulation of leukemia stem cells (LSCs) that are capable of maintaining and reinitiating disease. Our research program focuses on the development of therapeutic strategies for targeting LSCs. Using bioinformatics tools, the research group searched for compounds that may eliminate AML cells during the first stage of the disease. A group of antihistamines was identified as potential anti-AML drugs. Surprisingly, the mechanism of action responsible for the therapeutic effect differed from the one previously observed for allergies. Instead, these drugs targeted lysosomes, intracellular organelle involved in cellular recycling. We propose to study the role of lysosomes in leukemia at different levels. Thus, we aim to decipher the implication of lysosomes in the maintenance of the disease, and to identify new therapeutic target and to study the implication of lysosomes in the clinical outcome of leukemia patients. The data that we expect to generate will provide the basis for the development of new treatment for leukemia. This project will be pursued in close collaboration with the clinical research group led by Dr. Jordi Esteve (Hospital Clínic of Barcelona).

What we need

- BSc and MSc in Life Science.
- Advanced English language skills
- Accreditation in animal research
- Interest in drug development and translational biomedical research
- Molecular Biology knowledge

Skills Specifications

- High level of motivation and interest
- Excellent comprehension and communication skills
- Cell biology knowledge
- Ability to work with other team members and external collaborators



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What we offer

- Incorporation in the "Leukemia stem cell" group at the Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute
- Exciting and innovative research combining basic and translation hemato-oncology research
- An exciting and innovative research project.
- The stimulating environment of the Barcelona metropolitan area.
- Contract details will be negotiated and take into account the track record of the candidate.
- Preferential start date: JAN./FEB. 2020

For more information

Please also visit our group webpage:

https://www.carrerasresearch.org/en/Leukemia_Stem_Cell_Group

How to apply

Interested applicants should send their CV, cover letter and two references to rrh@carrerasresearch.org.

PLEASE MENTION the REFERENCE in the subject of the mail or your application may not reach the right person.

Deadline for applications

The call will be open until 31 DEC. 2019

Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute (IJC)

The mission of the IJC is to carry out research into the basic, epidemiological, preventive, clinical and translational aspects of leukemia and other hematologic malignancies.

The laboratories of the institute are on three campuses: the ICO-Germans Trias Campus on the Can Ruti Campus in Badalona; the Clinic-UB Campus in the University of Barcelona Faculty of Medicine on the Hospital Clinic campus in Barcelona and in the future on the Sant Pau Hospital Campus in Barcelona.

The legal address of the IJC is Muntaner 383, 3rd 2nd / 08021 Barcelona but CHECK which campus this job is located on.

T. +34 93 557 28 00 / F. +34 93 465 14 72 www.carrerasresearch.org

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The IJC is an equal opportunities employer