

PREDOCTORAL CONTRACT POSITION ADDICTION



Universitat Pompeu Fabra and the Fundació IMIM Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB)

Our laboratories (Laboratory of Neuropharmacology from the **Universitat Pompeu Fabra** and the Cell-type mechanisms in normal and pathological behavior Group from **IMIM**, Barcelona, Spain) seek a scientist who has strong potential for innovation and leadership in research, to integrate her/him in their research groups which covers a broad range of topics in neuroscience.

Open position: **Predoctoral contract.**

Specific issue of the position: **Understanding the involvement of incidental associations in addictive-like behaviors.**

Research project: The position is within a common **research line on the behavioural evaluation of addiction.**

Specific requests: The candidate must be **ready to work and progress** in her/his **PhD project** on the design, execution and analysis of **behavioural studies** in murine models using combining higher-order **conditioning paradigms** (e.g. sensory preconditioning) with specific behavioural protocols to study **addictive-like behaviours** (e.g. drug or food self-administration). A particular focus will be given to the elucidation of the **brain circuits** underlying higher-order conditioning processes and the impact of **indirect cues** on addictive-like behaviors (e.g. reinstatement). Candidates should hold valid **BSc** and **MSc** (not later than by September 2020) **degrees** (e.g. **Biology, Biotechnology, Pharmacology, Neurosciences, Medicine, Psychology, Pharmacy** or related subjects) or equivalent Degree (e.g. **Medicine**); an average mark ("*nota media*") of the BSc degree or a combined mark of BSc and MSc degrees of around **8** (over

10) or higher is required. A scientific-technical background on **experimental behaviour and/or surgical procedures** will be particularly appreciated. She/he should be fluent in English and have an interactive personality. Past experience in cooperative projects or programs will be positively valued.

Important notice: The candidate **should better** have a **valid FELASA-accredited certificate** (Researcher level) to work with experimental animals (rodents).

References: *Science*. 2014 Jan 3, 343(6166):94-8. doi: 10.1126/science.1243985; *Neuropsychopharmacology*. 2016 Aug, 41(9):2192-205. doi: 10.1038/npp.2015.351. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2017 May 1, 81(9):778-788. doi: 10.1016/j.biopsych.2016.12.022; *Elife*. 2020 Jan 14, 9. doi: 10.7554/eLife.50356; *Nat Commun*. 2020 Feb 7, 11(1):782. doi: 10.1038/s41467-020-14458-y; *Molecular Psychiatry*. 2017 Nov, 22(11):1594-1603. doi: 10.1038/mp.2017.4; *Neuron*, 2018 Sep 19, 99(6):1247-1259.e7. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2018.08.014.

Offer: the selection is to be carried out during the next months, with a **deadline for application on June 30th, 2020**, whilst **start working is planned not later than October 1st, 2020**. The research contract is awarded for a period of 4 years, with a PhD student standard salary.

Applications should include:

- A full **CV**
- **Academic records** of the BSc and of the MSc ("*expediente académico de Grado y de Master con expresión de la nota media*")
- A statement of research interests and plans (**motivation letter**)
- The **names** (and e-mail addresses) **or** the **letters of support** of **two scholars** who are willing to serve as references for the applicant

Contact: please, send your application (**letter of intent** plus **updated cv** and two **letters of support** or referees) and your contact data, **stating the reference PREDOCTORAL CONTRACT ADDICTION**, by e-mail to: info.neurophar@upf.edu and abusquets@imim.es

All dossiers will be handled with confidentiality.

The University Pompeu Fabra is an equal-opportunity employer.