



PhD position available in DIAMET group, IISPV, Tarragona, Spain.

The Diabetes and Metabolic Associated Diseases Research Group (DIAMET, www.diamet.org), led by **Dr. Sonia Fernández-Veledo**, is a multidisciplinary and dynamic research group focused on the study of metabolic derangements associated to diabetes mellitus and obesity morbidities. The group combines collaborative research, development activities and follows an independent research line on translational diabetes and metabolic associated diseases research. DIAMET belongs to the Pere Virgili Institute (IISPV) and University Hospital from Tarragona Joan XXIII, and is integrated in a nationwide net for the study of diabetes, CIBERdem, that was initiated in 2008 by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III from Spain. Likewise, the group is recognised as a consolidated group by the Agencia de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (AGAUR) from the Generalitat de Catalunya since 2009, housed in the Rovira i Virgili University.

Are you looking for a great place to combine basic biology and medical need? We are looking for a motivated PhD student to join our team! A fully funded PhD position under the supervision of **Dra. Sonia Fernández-Veledo** is available at the DIAMET group. Candidate will be integrated into the project of the call "Proyectos de I+D Retos Investigación" entitled "Succinate as a new extracellular signaling metabolite governing glucose homeostasis; SUCNR1 as a molecular drug target in obesity and related diseases" lead by Dra. Sonia Fernández-Veledo

Why is this important? Succinate/SUCNR1 axis as a novel regulator of glucose homeostasis linking gut microbiota to host metabolism. This would be a new metabolic pathway involved in energy homeostasis, whose dysregulation may be one of the underlying mechanisms of abnormal glucose metabolism in obesity and T2D.

How can you help? Successful candidate will be working with in vivo and in vitro models and will be acquire strong knowledge and experience on different techniques applied to biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology. You will compare your findings to publicly available databases and recent literature and help to put our work in context.

Selected candidate will apply for "Ayudas para contratos predoctorales para la formación de doctores del Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades" expected (in autumn 2019).

Requirements of the ideal candidate:

- Master's degree in biological sciences, chemistry, biochemistry or medicine.
- Candidate should have a background in medicine or life sciences. Besides academic record, it will be well considered other features such as bioinformatics, statistical, as well as a strong motivation to pursue a scientific career, an analytical mind, dedication, team spirit and excellent English skills.
- Only those candidates with an academic record of more than 2 will be valued

If you are interested, send your curriculum vitae, university certificates, academic record and two letters of recommendation (if is possible) at: curriculum@iispv.cat including the reference 30/19 in the subject line.

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Latest publications related to the project:

- Ceperuelo-Mallafré, V. Pre-operative circulating succinate levels as a biomarker for diabetes remission after bariatric surgery. *Diabetes Care*. 2019. DOI: 10.2337/dc19-0114
- Keiran N. SUCNR1 signaling controls macrophage alternative activation and regulates immune metabolic responses in obesity. *Nature Immunology*. 2019. DOI: 10.1038/s41590-019-0372-7
- Carolina S. Elevated circulating levels of succinate in human obesity are linked to specific gut microbiota. *The ISME journal*. 2018. DOI: 10.1038/s41396-018-0068-2