

## PhD opportunity

We are looking for two PhD candidates to apply for the forthcoming PhD health research training contract (PFIS). More information about this grant from the 2020 call can be found at <https://www.isciii.es/QueHacemos/Financiacion/solicitudes/Paginas/default.aspx>.

The candidate will join the research group "Applied Neuroscience" of the Pere Virgili Health Research Institute ([www.iispv.cat](http://www.iispv.cat)), the Pere Mata Institute University Hospital ([www.peremata.com](http://www.peremata.com)) and the Rovira i Virgili University ([www.urv.cat](http://www.urv.cat)). Candidates are required for 2 possible positions for 4 years.

### Research projects:

1) A double-blind randomized controlled study on the efficacy of nutraceutical supplementation and physical exercise in the clinical improvement of autism and schizophrenia. The project involves the collection, management and analysis of clinical, anthropometric, biochemical, metabolomic and genetic data. The genetic analyses include the study of the nuclear genome through GWAS and also the mtDNA (sequence, rearrangements and number of copies) through next-generation sequencing and qPCR techniques. The candidate will participate in data management and statistical analysis, in the writing of results in scientific articles and in their dissemination.

**PI:** Lourdes Martorell, ORCID 0000-0003-4999-2197.

**Project title:** Double-blind randomized controlled pilot study of the efficacy of nutraceuticals combined with physical activity as an adjunctive treatment for autism and schizophrenia (PI21/01812).

2) The role of genetics on BMI increase in psychotic disorders. The candidate will work in the premises of the URV to carry-out dry-lab bioinformatics research, including the generation and maintenance of databases, programming, statistical analysis and interpretation of results. The candidate will perform analyses in GWAS and polygenic risk scoring. She/he will also co-lead the dissemination of results in papers and meetings.

**PI:** Gerard Muntané, ORCID 0000-0003-1541-8365.

**Project title:** Deciphering the role of genetics in the weight increase associated with schizophrenia (PI21/00612).

### Applicant requirements

- 1- Degree in the field of life sciences, average score > 2.7.
- 2- Master's degree obtained after 1-1-2019, average score > 2.7.
- 3- Fluent English.
- 4- Fulfill the requirements of the call.

Candidates should send an e-mail to [martorell@peremata.com](mailto:martorell@peremata.com) (PI21/01812) or [muntaneg@peremata.com](mailto:muntaneg@peremata.com) (PI21/00612) enclosing a letter of presentation, academic records and the CV indicating as subject: PFIS 2021 Grant.

Deadline: December 31, 2021