

INTERNATIONAL CALL IC66_25

JOB TITLE

Junior Researcher for DIAMET group

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Pere Virgili Institute for Health Research (IISPV) is an institution that integrates research in the field of biomedicine in the “Camp de Tarragona” and the “Terres de l’Ebre”. The IISPV is the instrument that the university hospitals of both health regions have been endowed with (Joan XXIII University Hospital of Tarragona, Verge de la Cinta Hospital of Tortosa, Sant Joan de Reus University Hospital, Institut Pere Mata University Hospital of Reus) and Rovira and Virgili University, in order to bring together and manage biomedical research and innovation in the territory.

Number of available positions: 1

The selected candidate will perform the following tasks:

- Contribute to the implementation of the SUC_LIVE project, focused on investigating the succinate-SUCNR1 signaling axis in liver metabolism and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD).
- Design, perform, and analyse preclinical experiments using genetically modified mouse models, including hepatocyte-specific *Sucnr1* knockout lines, to study liver metabolism and inflammation.
- Conduct molecular and cellular studies in primary hepatocytes, and hepatic cell lines to characterize SUCNR1-dependent pathways involved in metabolic and inflammatory responses.
- Apply molecular biology, biochemical and imaging techniques (qPCR, Western blotting, immunofluorescence, lipid metabolism and mitochondrial function assays).
- Participate in translational studies involving human cohorts and the minipig model of NAFLD in collaboration with national and international partners.
- Manage and analyse experimental data, ensuring high scientific standards, reproducibility, and compliance with ethical and biosafety regulations.
- Collaborate in the preparation of scientific reports, manuscripts, and presentations, and contribute to project dissemination activities.

CANDIDATE PROFILE & REQUIREMENTS

Please note that candidates must submit all necessary documentation along with their CV to demonstrate that they meet the minimum requirements to be admitted into the next phase.

- Bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Biomedicine, or a related discipline. A minimum degree of 8/10 is required.
- Master’s degree in Biomedicine, Metabolism or a closely related biomedical field.
- Advanced training in liver pathophysiology, metabolic regulation, and inflammation, with a focus on glucose and insulin dynamics and systemic tissue homeostasis.
- Proven competence and hands-on experience in:

- In vivo models of metabolic diseases. (A valid certificate for animal handling will be required.)
- Isolation of murine primary hepatocytes.
- Use and maintenance of immortalized cell lines.
- Molecular and cellular biology techniques (e.g., Western blotting, qPCR, ELISA, IHC/IF, proteomics, RNA-seq/single-cell RNA-seq, microscopy).
- Metabolic phenotyping assays (e.g., GTT, ITT, PTT, Seahorse, etc.).
- Data management and analysis, including advanced statistical methodologies and bioinformatics approaches.
- Proven record of scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals relevant to the field (first authorship will be prioritized).
- Minimum of 5 years of research experience in metabolism or related biomedical areas.
- Documented participation in national and international scientific congresses, including poster and/or oral presentations.
- Previous experience in science communication, public engagement, or outreach activities.
- Excellent written and spoken English (minimum level C1 or equivalent).
- Prior involvement in university-level teaching activities.
- International scientific experience, including research stays abroad at recognized institutions.
- Documented participation in competitively funded research projects.

IT WILL BE VALUED

- In-depth knowledge of liver pathophysiology.
- Academic or scientific awards.
- Experience supervising undergraduate students in research settings.
- Documented proficiency in languages other than English.
- Proficiency in office software (Microsoft Office), with advanced skills in Excel.
- Familiarity with applications and tools for data analysis, statistics and image quantification softwares, such as GraphPad Prism, R or ImageJ/Fiji.
- Previous experience in similar research projects.
- Strong problem-solving skills.
- Advanced skills in figure and graphical design for scientific publications.
- Previous experience in scientific writing and reading, including project proposal preparation.
- Ability to learn quickly, flexibility, and adaptability.
- Commitment to quality, resource optimization, and achieving results.
- High motivation, creativity, initiative, and a proactive attitude.
- Teamwork and organizational skills, as well as kindness, dynamism, versatility, rigor, responsibility, and confidentiality.
- Demonstrated ambition to further develop knowledge in research methodologies and scientific disciplines.
- Proven ability to produce high-quality data under supervision.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

- Full-time position 40h/week
- Workplace: Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus / Hospital Universitari Joan XXIII de Tarragona / Facultat de Medicina de Reus
- Contract: Indefinite scientific-technical linked to DIAMET group project
- Gross annual salary: 24.000 – 26.000€
- Starting date: December 2025

SELECTION PROCEDURE

- Selection of CV's. Suitable and unsuitable CV's will be identified according to the requirements. Applicants who do not meet the requirements indicated in the candidate profile and requirements will not pass to the next phase.
- Evaluation of the CV. Evaluation of the CVs up to a maximum score of 60 points.
- Cover Letter. Attach to the resume a cover letter with a maximum length of 2500 characters with spaces. With a maximum score of 10 points.

To access the interview phase, it is necessary to have obtained a minimum score of 60 points in the sum of scores of the evaluation of the curriculum and cover letter

- Personal interview. With a maximum score of 30 points.

Items	30
Attitude	5
Fit in the work place	10
Experience, developed functions/skills	10
Teamwork	5

The selected person must have obtained a minimum score of 80 points in the sum of scores from the assessment of all phases of the selection procedure.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

- President: Sonia Fernández-Veledo (Group Leader, R4)
- Chair 1: Victòria Ceperuelo-Mallafre (Senior Researcher, R3)
- Chair 2: Lúdia Cedó (Senior Researcher, R3)

SUBSTITUTES:

- President: Joan Vendrell (Full Professor, R4)
- Chair 1: Ana Madeira (Post doctoral Researcher, R2)
- Chair 2: Ana Megia (Clinical Reserarcher, R3)

CANDIDATURES

- The CV must include the DNI/NIE number or another personal identity document number.
- **All minimum requirements need to be attached/justified**
- Send the CV and the Cover Letter through the form that you will find on the bottom of the offer page <https://www.iispv.cat/treballa-amb-nosaltres/>

For any questions or queries: recruitment@iispv.cat

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CV 24/10/2025

COMMUNICATIONS

The IISPV will notify the candidates of the results of the different phases of the selection process through its website.

HRS4R Research in HR Excellence

The IISPV has the European accreditation The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R), complies with the general principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers.

The IISPV has an internal recruitment policy that follows the Open, Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment (OTM-R) policies. More information about the HRS4R policies implemented at the IISPV is available on the following website: <https://www.iispv.cat/hrs4r-hr-excellenceresearch/>

The IISPV will guarantee the right to equal opportunities and treatment, as well as the real and effective exercise of rights by people with disabilities under equal conditions with respect to other citizens, through the promotion of personal autonomy, universal accessibility, access to employment, inclusion in the community and independent living and the eradication of any form of discrimination, in accordance with articles 9.2, 10, 14 and 49 of the Spanish Constitution and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and international treaties and agreements ratified by Spain.

In the event of a tie, priority will be given to hiring the person with a disability.

In the event of a tie between people of different genders, the person of the least represented gender in the work group/department/service in which he joins will be hired.

Fecha	Revisión	Modificaciones
03-07-24	00	Creación del documento