

## INTERNATIONAL CALL IC09\_26

### **JOB TITLE**

Collaboration grant for the project "Transcriptomic signatures of BMI increase in First Episode Psychosis"

### **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.

We offer a collaboration grant for a Master's degree student for the 2025-2026 academic year.

The candidate will join the research group Genetics and Environment in Psychiatry (GAP, <https://www.iispv.cat/grup/gap-genetica-i-ambient-en-psiquiatria/>) that belongs to the Pere Virgili Health Research Institute (IISPV) and the Pere Mata Institute University Hospital. The IISPV is a public sector institution that promotes and develops the research of the Hospital Universitari of the Tarragona Joan XXIII, the Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus, Hospital Tortosa Verge de la Cinta, the mental health Pere Mata Institute and the Universitat Rovira i Virgili ([www.urv.cat](http://www.urv.cat)). The GAP investigates genetic and environmental factors and the mechanisms that are involved in the development of psychiatric disorders. The group conducts research by analyzing both their own genetic data obtained from participants in the funded projects and from repositories of research data. Among the different psychiatric diagnoses, the group currently focuses on psychosis, bipolar disorder, as well as their comorbidities.

**The main objective of this project is to characterize the gene expression changes associated with the increase in Body Mass Index (BMI) in patients experiencing their first episode of psychosis (FEP).**



**"Este proyecto está financiado por el Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII) por el PI24/01118 y cofinanciado por la Unión Europea"**

The selected candidate will perform the following tasks:

- Preprocessing and quality control of raw RNA-seq data from FEP patient cohorts.
- Differential expression analysis and pathway enrichment related to metabolic changes.
- Integration of clinical phenotypic data (BMI) with transcriptomic profiles.
- Gene co-expression network analysis (WGCNA) to identify modules linked to BMI.
- Writing and preparation of the scientific manuscript for publication.

Number of available positions:1

### **CANDIDATE PROFILE**

*Current student of an official Master's degree in Bioinformatics or related field.*

### **REQUIREMENTS**

Be a current student of the official Master's degree in Bioinformatics, Omics Data Analysis, or a related field.

### **IT WILL BE VALUED**

- Previous experience in RNA-seq data processing and modeling.
- Knowledge of the genetic architecture of psychiatric diseases.
- Proficiency in R or Python for biological data analysis.
- Proven experience in building and evaluating predictive models.

### **LABOUR CONDITIONS**

- Workplace: Preferably online (Remote).
- Contract: Collaboration grant (5-month approximately)
- Gross Salary: 14.000 – 17.000 gross salary anual
- Starting date: Immediate/Spring 2026.

### **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 **50** 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 **40** points in the sum of scores of the evaluation of the curriculum and cover letter

- Personal interview. With a maximum score of **40** points.

<b>Items</b>	<b>40</b>
Attitude	<b>10</b>
Fit in the work place	<b>10</b>
Experience, developed functions/skills	<b>15</b>
Teamwork	<b>5</b>

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

- President: Gerard Muntané
- Chair 1: Maria Guardiola
- Chair 2: Lourdes Martorell

#### SUBSTITUTES:

- President: Elisabet Vilella
- Chair 1: Andrea Pérez
- Chair 2: Bernat Ballvé

### **CANDIDATURES**

- The CV must include the number in DNI / NIE or personal identity document.
- Send the CV and the Cover Letter through the IISPV website.

For any questions or queries: [recruitment@iispv.cat](mailto:recruitment@iispv.cat)

### **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CV: 26/02/2026**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The IISPV will inform the candidates if they have been admitted or excluded to access the interview through its website.

## **HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH**

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. |

<b>CHANGE CONTROL</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Review</b>	<b>Modificacions</b>
03-07-24	00	Document Creation