



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

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BRAIN RESEARCH CENTER

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Post-Doctoral Position in the Neuroimaging Research Group at the Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Centre Foundation

About the employer

The Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC) is a research center, constituted by the Pasqual Maragall Foundation. The goal of BBRC is to develop the understanding of age-related cognitive disability in order to provide practical solutions to the global challenges posed by the world's aging population. This goal will be achieved by championing primary and secondary prevention programs for Alzheimer's disease and other related neurodegenerative disorders, the study and promotion of healthy aging, and the research of mechanisms affected by healthy or pathological aging. The vision of BBRC is to provide the society with distinct and innovative solutions for age-related cognitive disability in order to attain a multidisciplinary comprehension of the aging process and the pathophysiology of neurodegeneration. At present BBRC deploys its research mission through the Alzheimer's Prevention Program.

Pasqual Maragall Foundation, Pompeu Fabra University and "la Caixa" are permanent members of the BBRC Board. International competitive recruitment, state-of-the-art scientific facilities, effective management and continuous high-standard peer-review evaluation are the BBRC core proceedings to ensure achieving world-class research results. BBRC is affiliated and located in the Campus Ciutadella of the Barcelona Pompeu Fabra University, the building contains excellent technical facilities, including a research-dedicated 3T MR scanner and Clinical Trials facilities.

BBRC is also part of the Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB), a large research facility that hosts other seven different research institutions related to biomedical research, including the Center for Genomic Regulation (CRG), the Hospital del Mar Medical Research Institute (IMIM), the Department of Experimental and Health Sciences of the Pompeu Fabra University (CEXS-UPF), the Institute of Evolutionary Biology (IBE CSIC-UPF), the Barcelona Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal) and the Barcelona site of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), among others, in a multidisciplinary, collaborative and stimulating international environment in close contact with a clinical setting, thus conducive to translational research.

For more information see: www.barcelonabeta.org and www.fpmaragall.org

About the project

ALFA (for ALzheimer and FAMilies) is a prospective study that follow-ups a cohort of cognitively unimpaired participants, most of them first-degree descendants of AD patients. The ALFA parent cohort is composed of 2743 cognitively unimpaired participants representing the whole spectrum of risk of developing AD that will leverage with different projects.



ALFA baseline visit included full cognitive evaluation, lifestyle habits questionnaires and DNA extraction for genetic characterization. Further, comprehensive cognitive and risk factors assessments, including lifestyle (eg. physical activity, cognitive activity, sleep), vascular (eg. hypertension, obesity), and psycho-affective factors (eg. stress, anxiety, depression) are available for these participants. In addition, ~1500 ALFA participants have also completed imaging assessments (structural and functional MRI). Nested to ALFA, the longitudinal ALFA+ cohort study will serve, through deep phenotyping, to untangle the natural history of the disease and to model its earliest stages to develop successful trials. Our most ambitious aim is to follow ALFA+ study participants throughout their lives. On the top of that the assessments performed to ALFA participants, ~400 ALFA+ individuals have also completed amyloid and glucose PET imaging and lumbar puncture to determine biomarker levels in CSF. Follow-up visits of ALFA+ participants are currently on-going.

Within the ALFA program, we are offering a 3-year postdoctoral position linked to the Neuroimaging group (PI: Juan Domingo Gispert). The Neuroimaging Research Group focuses on the study of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET) images to reveal brain characteristics related to healthy aging and AD risk factors that can be suggestive of novel prevention strategies. For this purpose, neuroimaging data is analysed together with cognition, genetics, biomarker and other clinical, environmental and lifestyle factors in order to detect their impact on the brain at the structural, functional and molecular levels.

About the job

BBRC invites applications for full-time post-doctoral position within the context of the ALFA Study, as part of the Neuroimaging Research Group from the Alzheimer's Prevention Program.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities for this position include:

- Lead and/or collaborate with other researchers neuroimaging analyses of the ALFA+ and related studies
- Prepare publications, presentations and internal project reports
- Contribute to BBRC's scientific work in the field of imaging

Required qualifications, competences and technical skills

The ideal candidate will have a PhD in a related field with extensive knowledge in the analysis and interpretation of results obtained through human brain imaging (MRI, PET) and with a thorough understanding of Alzheimer's pathophysiological processes, particularly at preclinical stages.

Excellent communication and writing skills in English are necessary as well as the ability to think independently and work collaboratively.



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Selection Process

- **Pre-selection:** The pre-selection process will be based on qualifications, expertise and motivation reflected on the candidate cover letter and CV. It will be merit-based.
- **Interview:** Preselected candidates will be interviewed by an internal scientific committee.
- **Offer Letter:** Once the successful candidate is identified the Human Resources department will send a Job Offer, specifying the start day, salary, working conditions, among other important details.

Benefits

We offer a unique research opportunity in a highly innovative project in a multidisciplinary institution.

- Starting date: ASAP
- The position is scheduled initially for 3 years
- Salary will depend on experience and will be in accordance to BBRC's salary scales.

We offer and promote a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applicants regardless of age, disability, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Application process

To apply, please submit a single PDF file containing the following:

- 1) Cover letter addressed to Dr Juan Domingo Gispert describing research interests and relevant background
- 2) CV
- 3) The names of up to three individuals who could provide reference letters. All files or inquiries should be submitted electronically to: rh@barcelonabeta.org

Subject: Post-Doctoral position in the Neuroimaging Research Group

Deadline: December 30th 2021



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We inform you that your personal data will be part of a file which Pasqual Maragall Foundation and Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center is responsible for, in order to manage the job offer you have requested. Once the process is complete, the data processed will be erased.

You have the right to exercise the rights of access, rectification, cancellation and opposition recognized in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation), to be addressed to the Pasqual Maragall Foundation and Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center: Wellington Street 30, 08005 Barcelona.