

Facility Manager Fluid Biomarker facility in the Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center

About the employer

The Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC) is a research center dedicated to the prevention of Alzheimer's disease and the study of cognitive functions affected in healthy and pathological aging. It was created in 2012 by the Pasqual Maragall Foundation, with the support of the Pompeu Fabra University.

The mission of the BBRC is to provide innovative solutions to decipher and prevent biological changes and cognitive dysfunction associated with neurodegenerative diseases. Due to the aging of the world population, these diseases constitute a global challenge, since for example, dementia can reach epidemic levels in 2050, with a forecast of more than 150 million people affected, if is not found a way to prevent its appearance and development.

The BBRC received the HR Excellence in Research award (HRS4R) granted by the European Commission; a recognition that shows its adherence to the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Research Staff. The center offers a **stimulating and favorable working environment** in accordance with the Charter and Code, which describe the rights and responsibilities of researchers and their employers, and contributes to the **creation of a transparent, attractive and open ecosystem** at international level.

Pasqual Maragall Foundation, Pompeu Fabra University and “la Caixa” Foundation are permanent members of the BBRC Board. The center is affiliated and located in the Ciutadella Campus of the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona, in a building inaugurated in 2016. The BBRC headquarters has excellent technical facilities, including a 3TMR scanner dedicated to research, and spaces for conducting Clinical Trials and EEG. 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 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.fpmaragall.org and www.barcelonabeta.org

About the project

The development of blood based biomarkers in the field of Alzheimer's disease and related neurodegenerative disorders have become a reality. Our institution has recently established a Fluid Biomarker Facility equipped with different analytical technologies including the most advanced ultrasensitive biomarker platforms. We expect to incorporate additional cutting-edge technologies to perform high-multiplex, high-throughput protein biomarker measurements. The new Fluid Biomarkers Facility will offer fluid biomarkers measurements and research support, in collaboration with the "Fluid Biomarkers and Translational Neurology Research Group" (Group Leader: Marc Suárez-Calvet), to researchers at the PRBB, other academic or research institutions, health centers and industry. We envision intense collaborations with all relevant stakeholders, both international and local, public and private, to accelerate research in AD and neurodegeneration. BBRC has the goal of becoming a reference lab in blood biomarkers for AD and other neurological diseases.

The facility will perform existing biomarkers assays in cerebrospinal fluid, blood and other fluids (*e.g.*, saliva, urine). The new Biomarkers Facility will also develop, validate and implement novel fluid biomarkers that will improve the diagnosis of AD and other age-related neurodegenerative diseases in their earliest stages, detecting susceptible subjects, determining their prognosis, monitoring disease progression and treatment effectiveness, or using them as surrogate markers in clinical trials. The Biomarkers Facility will thus address the whole biomarker development workflow, from identification of candidate biomarkers to assay development, and, finally, clinical implementation. We aim to generate a better understanding of the pathophysiology of neurodegenerative diseases and to provide biomarkers that are relevant for clinical purposes.

About the job

The Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC) seeks a manager for the Fluid Biomarkers Facility. Successful candidate is expected to oversee and supervise day-to-day operations of the facility, in which a wide range of analytical platforms will be employed depending on specific projects (Simoa, MSD, ELISA, among others). The biomarkers facility manager will be responsible for scheduling and organizing biomarker measurements and the staff, managing operating costs, supervise budget and maintaining/troubleshooting equipment. It is also expected that the manager will play a critical role in executing technical protocols and laboratory experiments using established protocols as well as contributing to the development of novel experimental designs, workflows, and new analytical methods. Successful candidate will work closely with faculty and scientists at BBRC and with our external partners on all aspects of their projects: project support, effectively communicating project progress and writing technical summaries, and assisting as needed with publication and grant writing.

Responsibilities

- Exercising control and supervision of the operations within the BBRC Fluid biomarker facility, with an emphasis on management, planning and administration processes (agenda, invoicing, coordination with technicians, assignment to external entities, etc.).
- Prepare contracts with external entities, control resources, costs and budgets. Monitor orders, and maintain proper coordination with finance department.
- Coordinate and supervise the reception and measurement of samples. Schedule biomarker measurements, and supervise the booking and assignment processes (of external and internal

research groups), in order to ensure maximum efficiency and occupancy.

- Coordinate, contract and supervise the purchase of consumables necessary for the proper functioning of the facility.
- Supervise and control of the preventive and corrective maintenance of the equipment.
- Assist on biomarker measurements and analyses, including appropriate quality control checks of biomarker measurements.
- Writing, reviewing and distributing the Standard Operating Procedures and protocols of the biomarker facility. Maintenance of quality standards according to international guidelines for biomarker measurements.

Required qualifications, competences and technical skills

Must have

- Grade in Biosciences or similar.
- Experience on managing scientific projects.
- Experience in organizing budget, costs and resources.
- Experience in laboratory management (lab safety, upkeep and trouble-shooting of lab equipment, organize staff schedules and other organizational functions).
- Experience with organizing and processing large data sets.
- Experience with computers and appropriate office software's packages.
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English.
- Basic laboratory skills and protein biochemistry techniques (ELISA, Western blot, immunoprecipitation and other protein biochemistry techniques).
- Ability to work collaboratively and with a high degree of autonomy.
- Excellent knowledge and follow Good Laboratory Practices (GLPs).
- Analytical and problem-solving skills.

Highly desirable

- Experience in biomarker analyses.
- Basic knowledge in statistics.

Benefits

- Starting date: Spring 2022 (starting date can be negotiated)
- Full-time position, 38 hours weekly.
- Salary will depend on experience and according 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. And the unique research opportunity in a highly innovative project in a multidisciplinary institution.

In the foundation we also care about developing your professional career so you will participate in internal and specific training for your job, promotion opportunities and development of your professional career. We evaluate the potential of our team in order to develop those skills necessary to achieve a high level of professional performance.

Application process

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

- 1) Cover letter 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: talent@barcelonabeta.org

Subject: Manager Fluid Biomarker Facility

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: c/ Wellington 30, 08005 Barcelona.

