POSTDOCTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE IN DIAMET RESEARCH GROUP (Tarragona, Spain)

The **Diabetes and Metabolic Associated Diseases Research Group (DIAMET)** is a multidisciplinary and dynamic research group focused in the study of metabolic derangements associated to diabetes mellitus and obesity morbidities. The research group is co-leaded by **Joan J. Vendrell** (MD; PhD) and **Sonia Fernandez-Veledo** (PhD), and is composed by clinical and basic investigators, technicians and administrative support staff.

Academic context: The group belongs to the **Pere Virgily Institute (IISPV)** and University Hospital from Tarragona Joan XXIII, and is integrated in a nationwide net for the study of diabetes, **CIBERDEM** (Instituto de Salud Carlos III from Spain). Likewise, the group is recognised as a consolidated group by the Agencia de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (AGAUR) from the Generalitat de Catalunya housed in the **Rovira i Virgili University**.

Scientific context: The central hypothesis of our group is based on the adipose tissue dysfunction as a key component in the development of obesity-associated metabolic disorders and not only a consequence of these pathologies. We combine clinical (longitudinal and prospective cohort studies) with basic research (animal models, cell cultures, molecular biology techniques) to identify new biomarkers as well as the molecular mechanisms involved in the metabolic dysregulation of adipocytes, which may help to find new approaches and targets for the treatment of these metabolic diseases in humans. For more information about our research see www.diamet.org

Project objectives: Once viewed as an energy storage depot, AT is now considered as a bona fide immune organ, at the crossroads between metabolism and immunity. In this context, adipose tissue-derived stem cells (ASCs) not only participate in the turnover of mature adipocytes in humans but they also possess immunoregulatory properties that might have an important yet unknown pathophysiological function. The candidate will work on a project aimed to understand the cellular, molecular and immune mechanisms regulating the contribution of ASCs to obesity-related comorbidities. The Postdoctoral Research Associate will be responsible for designing, and performing experiments as well as complex data analysis.

Qualifications required: PhD degree in Cell Biology, Immunolgy, Molecular Biology or other closely related field. **Strong background and training in immunology, flow cytometry and sorting is an essential requirement**. Skills required include utilization of tissue cultures, molecular and cellular biology and experience in animal models.

The successful candidates will:

- Be part of an innovative, cutting-edge and world-renown metabolic research group
- Work with Early-stage Principal Investigators and established Senior Investigators and collaborators
- Transition from post-doctoral fellow to Early-stage Investigator
- Mentor undergraduate students

Interested applicants: Please submit an application cover letter, full curriculum vitae, and current contact information for three professional references to Sonia Fernández-Veledo (sonia.fernandezveledo@gmail.com) before 15th February with the following reference "Post-doctoral position 2017".

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