

PREDOCTORAL CONTRACT POSITION DEPRESSION



**Laboratory of Neuropharmacology-Neurophar
Department of Experimental & Health Sciences (DCEXS)
Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF)
Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB)**

The Laboratory of Neuropharmacology, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona, Spain, seeks a scientist who has demonstrated (or has strong potential for) innovation and leadership in research, to integrate her/him in their research group which covers a broad range of topics in neuroscience.

Open position: **Pre-doctoral contract.**

Specific issue of the position: **Study of early biomarkers and novel pharmacological targets for antidepressant actions and associated comorbidities.**

Research project: The position is within a **research line in the frame of the EU-funded era-NET NEURON 2019 “Translational Biomarkers in Brain Disorders” project**, with the collaboration of some top European/Canadian research groups.

Specific requests: The candidate must be **ready to work and progress** in her/his **PhD project** on the design, execution and analysis of **behavioural studies** in murine models to induce depressive-like behaviour, and **complementary behavioural tests** for the evaluation of locomotion, anxiety and cognition. A particular focus will be given to the elucidation of the role of different glial cell populations in the development of depressive-like behaviours and in early antidepressant actions. Candidates should hold valid BSc and **MSc (not later than by September 2020) degrees** (e.g. **Biology, Biotechnology, Pharmacology, Neurosciences, Medicine, Psychobiology, Pharmacy** or related subjects) or

equivalent Degree (e.g. **Medicine**); an average mark (“*nota media*”) of the BSc degree or a combined mark of BSc and MSc degrees of around 7.8 (over 10) or higher is required. A scientific-technical background on **experimental pain in murine models** will be particularly appreciated. She/he should be fluent in English and have an interactive personality. Past experience in international cooperative projects or programs will be positively valued.

Important notice: The candidate **should better** have a **valid FELASA-accredited certificate** (Researcher level) to work with experimental animals (rodents).

Group: The selected person will join the **Laboratory of Neuropharmacology**, which is composed of 33 members, will enrol in the PhD Program on Biomedicine of the UPF, will be directly supervised by a Senior investigator and will count on the support of expert technicians of the group and will have a good opportunity to further develop her/his professional career in this field.

References: *Psychopharmacology* 159:379, 2002; *Nat Med* 24:591, 2018; *J Neurosci Res* 98:601, 2020.

Offer: the selection is to be carried out immediately, with a **deadline for application on March 31st, 2020**, whilst **start working is planned not later than on Sept 1st, 2020**. The research contract is awarded for a **period of 4 years**, with a **PhD student standard salary**.

Applications should include:

- A full **CV**
- **Academic records** of the BSc and of the MSc (“*expediente académico de Grado y de Master con expresión de la nota media*”)
- A statement of research interests and plans (**motivation letter**)
- The **names** (and e-mail addresses) or the **letters of support** of **two scholars** who are willing to serve as references for the applicant

Contact: please, send you application (**letter of intent** plus **updated cv** and two **letters of support** or referees) and your contact data, **stating the reference PREDOCTORAL CONTRACT NEUROPHAR DEPRESSION**, by e-mail to: info.neurophar@upf.edu

Further information: <http://www.upf.edu/neurophar>

All dossiers will be handled with confidentiality.

The University Pompeu Fabra is an equal-opportunity employer.