

PREDOCTORAL CONTRACT POSITION



**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: **Predoctoral contract.**

Specific issue of the position: **Evaluation of chronic (neuropathic and osteoarthritic) pain manifestations and co-morbidities (affective, cognitive, locomotor, cardiovascular) for innovative and preventive treatment strategies.**

Research project: The position is within a **research line on experimental pain in the frame of an EU-funded H2020 research project**, with the collaboration of some top European 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 of experimental pain** in murine models using **nociceptive paradigms**, including thermal nociceptive models, neuropathic pain models and mechanical perception models, and **complementary behavioural tests** for the evaluation of locomotion, anxiety, depression and cognition. A particular focus will be given to the elucidation of **inter-individual variability** due to genetic (including sex) and/or environmental factors with the different treatments or conditions studied. Candidates should hold a valid **MSc degree** (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 postdoctoral fellow 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: *J Neurosci* 28:12136 and *J Neurosci* 28:12125, 2008; *Pain* 149:483, 2010; *Pain* 152:1238, 2011; *Br J Pharmacol* 166:2289, 2012; *Eur J Pain* 17:832, 2013; *Pain* 154:160, 2013; *Nat Med* 19:603, 2013; *Eur J Neurosci* 39:485, 2014; *Pain* 156:2001, 2015; *Eur J Pain* 20:1454, 2016; *Eur J Pain*, 22:763, 2018; *Neuropharmacology* 148:291, 2019; *Front Pharmacol*, 10:468, 2019; *Br J Pharmacol*, 176:3939, 2019; *Br J Pharmacol* 2019 Oct 26. doi: 10.1111/bph.14911; *Elife*. 2020 Jan 14;9. pii: e50356. doi: 10.7554/eLife.50356.

Offer: the selection is to be carried out immediately, with a **deadline for application on March 2nd, 2020**, whilst **start working is planned as early as possible but not later than on June 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 PAIN NEUROPHAR**, 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.