



The Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR) is a public sector institution that promotes and develops the research, innovation and biosanitary teaching of the Vall d'Hebron University Hospital. Through the excellence of our research, we identify and apply new solutions to the health problems of society and we contribute to spread them around the world.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

In April 2015, the **Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR)** obtained the recognition of the European Commission **HR Excellence**.

This recognition proves that VHIR endorses the general principles of the European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (**Charter & Code**).

VHIR embraces Equality and Diversity. As reflected in our values we work toward ensuring inclusion and equal opportunity in recruitment, hiring, training, and management for all staff within the organization, regardless of gender, civil status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability or race.

Pre-doctoral Researcher

Psychiatry, Mental Health and Addictions

The **Group of Psychiatry, Mental Health and Addictions** is seeking a PhD student to work on Substance Use Disorders (SUD). More information about the group can be found [here](#).

SUD are highly heritable, comorbid, have substantial diagnostic overlap and share clinical features and genetic etiology. Genetic studies continue to identify hundreds of genetic associations with SUD, however translating these into causal genes or variants, biological mechanisms, and therapeutic targets remains a major challenge.

The candidate will join the **Psychiatric Genetic Unit**, a lab dedicated to understand the genetics of SUD with the ultimate goal to identify biomarkers for disease. We are involved in genotyping, gene and microRNA expression, epigenetics and microbiome analyses and are looking for a motivated PhD student to work alongside our scientists to help elucidate the genetic and psychological landscape of these poorly understood conditions.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Education and qualifications:

Required:

- Bachelor's and Master Degree in Sciences.
- Previous experience in genetics and genomics of SUD.

Desired

- Good communication skills and fluency in written and spoken English.
- Research experience abroad.

Skills:

- Well-organized and hardworking.
- High motivation.



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- Proactive and motivated person, capable of setting and meeting deadlines and delivering outputs to the required standard.
- Strong organization and team-working skills.
- Team Player and critical thinker.
- Ability to work independently.

Main responsibilities and duties:

- To determine the shared and specific genetic components in substance use disorders and related traits, as well as to infer causal relationships between them, using genome-wide association studies (GWAS)
- • Develop new algorithms to advance the analysis and integration of omic data (GWAS, RNAsseq, microarrays, methylomes, etc...), clinical and environmental in various neurodevelopmental disorders to determine biomarkers useful in diagnosis, prognosis or therapeutic response.
- • Publication of articles and scientific works in indexed journals.

Labour conditions:

- Full-time/Part-time position: 40h/week.
- Starting date: immediate.
- Gross annual salary: 20.000 – 21.064 euros /// (Remuneration will depend on experience and skills. Salary ranges are consistent with our Collective Agreement pay scale)
- Contract: **temporary**.

What can we offer?

- Incorporation to Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR), a public sector institution that promotes and develops the biomedical research, innovation and teaching at Vall d'Hebron University Hospital (HUVH), the biggest hospital of Barcelona and the largest of Catalan Institute of Health (ICS).
- A scientific environment of excellence, highly dynamic, where high-end biomedical projects are continuously developed.



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- Continuous learning and a wide range of responsibilities within a stimulating work environment.
- Personal training opportunities.
- Flexible working hours.
- 23 days of holidays + 9 personal days.
- Flexible Remuneration Program (including dining checks, health insurance, transportation and more).

How to apply:

Applicants should submit a full Curriculum Vitae and a cover letter with the reference "Pre- doc job offer" to the following email addresses: marta.ribases@vhir.org, raquel.ibarz@vhir.org and seleccio@vhir.org