INSTITUTE OF BIOORGANIC CHEMISTRY
Polish Academy of Sciences

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IBCH PAS RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE NO. 17/2023/SN
FOR THE POSITION OF A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

INSTITUTION:	Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, Department of Molecular Neurobiology
CITY:	Poznan
POSITION:	assistant professor (post-doc)
POSITIONS AVAILABLE:	1
SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE:	biology, neurobiology
PUBLICATION DATE:	**3 November 2023**
APPLICATION DEADLINE:	**15 December 2023**
WEBSITE:	https://portal.ibch.poznan.pl/homepage

KEYWORDS: neurodegenerative disease, brain, mutant protein, PolyQ, autophagy, proteasome, therapy, small molecules, preclinical drug testing, small molecule drugs, spinocerebellar ataxia 3, SCA3
Principal Investigator: Dr hab. Maciej Figiel, prof. ICHB

Research topic: Neurodegenerative diseases, including polyglutamine diseases and Alzheimer's disease, are currently incurable. Spinocerebellar ataxia type 3 (SCA3) is a model example of a genetic neurodegenerative disease caused by a particular type of mutation that results in an increased number of CAG nucleotide repeats in the ATXN3 gene sequence. This mutation results in the defective ataxin-3 protein developing new toxic functions, forming toxic aggregates in the cell and disturbing several cellular processes. Ataxin-3 plays a crucial role in controlling which proteins and organelles should be cleared in the cell through two related cellular mechanisms called autophagy and UPS. Ataxin-3 recognizes a protein tag called ubiquitin that directs a protein or cell fragment for breakdown and detaches this tag from the protein, thereby preventing premature removal of the proteins from the cell.
We aim to use small molecule drugs to facilitate the controlled removal of toxic mutant ataxin-3 protein. This will prevent altered cellular processes that result in neurodegeneration in the brain cells of model animals. We plan to test the effectiveness of these drugs in the brain of the SCA3 mouse model during our preclinical study. Our goal is to develop a therapy targeted against toxic proteins, which can fight neurodegeneration.

We offer the position of a Ph.D. position (post-doc) within OPUS NSC research project OPUS 21 nr 2021/41/B/NZ2/03881 entitled: “Investigation of a new therapeutic strategy to lower mutant protein in SCA3/MJD”, funded by the National Science Centre, Poland.

ICHB PAN is one of the leading research institutions in Poland and conducts research activities in the field of chemistry, molecular biology, and biomedicine. The Institute provides access to state-of-the-art technics and advanced research equipment.

I. Requirements for the candidates:

- Ph.D. degree in one of the following: cell biology, molecular biology or neurobiology, or similar research areas or the written statement of the Ph.D. supervisor defining the planned date of Ph.D. thesis defense*
- Comprehensive knowledge of molecular biology and the corresponding laboratory techniques
- Comprehensive knowledge of cell biology and corresponding laboratory techniques
- Experience confirmed by scientific achievements: co-authorship of publications in recognized scientific journals, internships, and trainings
- Great ability to think analytically, interpret experiments, and formulate conclusions

- Very high motivation and commitment to accomplish the project and ability to work in a team
- Above-average self-organization and the ability to manage time pressure in project
- Excellent manual skills in performing experiments
- Experience in working with animals (mice)
- Fluency in English (both in speech and in writing)
- English language scientific publication writing skills

Selected skills, knowledge of which may be of advantage for the candidate:

- Experience in flow cytometry
- Experience in the preparation and purification of native and recombinant proteins
- Experience in the design and execution of chromatographic experiments such as SEC.
- Experience in working with primary neurons, glial cells, and iPSC and organoids
- Bioinformatic experience
- Experience in stereotaxic operations and behavioral tests on animals

*In accordance with the requirements of the National Science Center, only those candidates who received their PhD degree no earlier than 7 years prior to the date of employment within the research project, excluding parental or related leaves governed by the stipulations of the Labor Code, rehabilitation period associated with rehabilitation allowances or other rehabilitation benefits, are eligible for recruitment. In such cases, the aforementioned 7-year period shall be extended by additional 18 months for every descendant or adoptee. Female applicants may choose the way of justifying breaks in their research career, which is more favorable in a given case.
Pursuant to the regulations of the National Science Center, only candidates who obtained their PhD degree at an institution other than the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, PAS, are eligible for the position.

II. Job Responsibilities:

- Creative implementation of all aspects of the research project
- Interpretation and reporting of the results of the analyzes carried out
- Preparation of scientific reports in the form of publications and participation in scientific conferences
- Supervision of PhD students
- Preparation of scientific manuscripts

III. Required documents:

1. Cover letter of application to the Director of IBCH PAS featuring contact details to at least two referees.
2. Copy of the doctoral diploma.
3. CV featuring information on the candidate's scientific track record, including:
   - The list of papers published in journals listed in the Web of Science (WoS) database, stating the IF in accordance with WoS, the number of citations, and the H-index.
   - list of patents;
   - information on the previously managed projects or participation in project implementation;
   - information on the accomplished research internships;
   - information on the awarded prizes and distinctions.

IV. Applications should be submitted via the eRecruiter portal

https://system.erecruiter.pl/FormTemplates/RecruitmentForm.aspx?WebID=4c9ed818731b4cf8a2a8400833c7a05a

V. The submission deadline is December 15, 2023.

VI. Selection of candidates:

Following preliminary verification, on the basis of the application documents, selected candidates will be invited to an interview, as a result of which a candidate recommended for employment shall be appointed. The main criteria, taken into consideration during the selection of the candidates, will be (i) research output (research papers published), (ii) compliance of the previous experience with the tasks planned within the

framework of the project (in the following order: genetics, cancerous diseases, some other experience in molecular biology/biotechnology or computational biology), (iii) experience gained during a long-term, foreign internship.

VII. The recruitment procedure shall be concluded no later than on January 8, 2023.

VIII. Start and duration of the position.

Employment is available instantly (depending on the result of the recruitment procedure). The position is available for a period of 24 months , with possible extension. The estimated gross salary is ca. 8 150 PLN/month.

IX. Employment shall take place in compliance with the provisions of the Labor Code of Poland.

For more details, please contact:

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Information clause:

Pursuant to the stipulations of the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), further referred to as GDPR, we hereby inform that:

- *The Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, seated in Noskowskiego St. 12/14, 61-704 Poznan; REGON 000849327, NIP 777-00-02-062 is the administrator of the collected personal data (further referred to as the Institute).*
- *The Administrator appointed a Data Protection Officer, who can be contacted in writing, via traditional mail, by sending a letter to the following address: Z. Noskowskiego St. 12/14, 61-704 Poznan, or by sending an e-mail to: dpo@ibch.poznan.pl.*
- *The personal data of the candidates is processed for the purposes of fulfilling the tasks of the administrator, associated with conducting the recruitment procedure for a vacant position.*
- *The legal basis for processing personal data is the Act of 26 June 1974 – The Labor Code, Act of 30 April 2010 on the Polish Academy of Sciences or the consent of the person whose data shall be subjected to processing.*
- *Your personal data shall be subjected to processing for period of 3 months upon the date of decision of the recruitment committee. Following this period, the data will be irretrievably and effectively destroyed.*
- *The personal data of the candidates shall not be transferred to any third country.*
- *The person whose data shall be subjected to processing has the right to:*

  - request access to his/her personal data, and to amend it or delete it, pursuant to articles 15-17 of GDPR;
  - limit data processing, in the events stipulated in article 18 of GDPR;
  - data transferring, pursuant to article 20 of GDPR;
  - withdraw consent at any moment, without influencing compliance with the law of the processing that was executed prior to consent withdrawal;
  - file a complaint to the Inspector General for Personal Data Protection.

Providing personal data in the scope stipulated in article 22 (1) of the Act of 26 June 1974 – The Labor Code is mandatory, whereas providing data in a broader scope is voluntary and requires consent for its processing.