

**IBCH PAS RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE NO. 5/2026/SN
FOR THE POSITION OF A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT F/M**

INSTITUTION: Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences,
Department of Biomedical Proteomics
CITY: Poznań
POSITION F/M: assistant professor (post-doc)
POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1
SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE: biology, neurobiology
PUBLICATION DATE: **June 1, 2026**
APPLICATION DEADLINE: **July 6, 2026**
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: Prof. Dr. hab. Maciej Figiel

Project Description

Neurodegenerative diseases, including polyglutamine disorders and Alzheimer's disease, remain among the greatest challenges of modern medicine. Spinocerebellar ataxia type 3 (SCA3/MJD) is a model example of this group: a genetically determined brain disorder caused by an expansion of CAG repeats in the ATXN3 gene, leading to the production of a mutant ataxin-3 protein with toxic properties. The altered ataxin-3 forms aggregates, disrupts cellular homeostasis, and triggers a cascade of processes that ultimately result in neurodegeneration.

In this project, we aim to reverse this process.

The goal of the research is to develop a new therapeutic strategy based on small-molecule compounds that selectively and controllably reduce the levels of mutant ataxin-3. We are the authors of a patent that repurposes available oncological drugs for the treatment of SCA3. These compounds harness cellular protein-degradation pathways – autophagy and the proteasome – to restore neuronal balance and halt neurodegenerative processes.

As part of the project, we will conduct **preclinical studies** involving the administration of selected compounds directly into the brain of a mouse model of SCA3 and *C. elegans* SCA3 model. Our aim is to establish a solid foundation for a future therapy capable of protecting patient neurons from the toxic effects of PolyQ-expanded proteins.

The project is carried out at the **Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences (IBCH PAN)**, one of the leading research institutions in Poland, equipped with modern infrastructure and advanced technologies for biomedical research.

Job Offer – Postdoctoral Researcher (Adiunkt)

We offer a postdoctoral position (adiunkt) within the OPUS 21 project no. 2021/41/B/NZ2/03881 entitled **“Investigation of a new therapeutic strategy aimed at lowering mutant protein levels in SCA3/MJD”**, funded by the National Science Centre (NCN).

By joining our team, you will work on one of the most promising therapeutic directions in the field of neurodegenerative diseases. We offer:

- work in a dynamic, interdisciplinary research team
- access to state-of-the-art equipment and technologies
- the opportunity to conduct research with real translational potential
- an environment that supports scientific development and publication activity

If you want to work on a project that combines molecular biology, neurobiology, preclinical studies, and the development of targeted therapies, this position is an excellent fit for you.

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*
- Knowledge of molecular biology and the corresponding laboratory techniques
- 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
- Readiness to work 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 or completed at least a 10-month, continuous and documented postdoctoral internship in an entity other than the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences and in a country other than the country in which the doctoral degree was obtained.

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=a93032c765404c6e83c31bb395e584f8>

V. The submission deadline is July 6, 2026 .

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: neuroscience, genetics, 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 June 20, 2026 .

VIII. Start and duration of the position.

Employment is available instantly (depending on the result of the recruitment procedure). The position is available for 23 months. The estimated gross salary is ca. 8 300 PLN/month.

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

For more details, please contact:

dr hab. Maciej Figiel prof. ICHB

e-mail: mfigiel@ibch.poznan.pl

Information clause:

Pursuant to the stipulations of the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27 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 June 26 1974 – The Labor Code, Act of April 30 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 June 26 1974 – The Labor Code is mandatory, whereas providing data in a broader scope is voluntary and requires consent for its processing.

Protection for whistleblowers

In the case of reporting violations using a dedicated system for whistleblowers, the reporting person's data will be processed in accordance with applicable provisions on the protection of personal data, including the above-mentioned Regulation (EU 2016/679 of 27 April 2016). We ensure confidentiality and protection of the identity of reporting persons, and that their data will not be disclosed without their consent, unless the law provides otherwise.

Detailed rules regarding the protection of personal data and procedures for reporting violations of the law can be found in our Regulations on internal reporting at the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, available at the link: <https://portal.ichb.pl/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/INTERNALREPORTINGREGULATIONS.pdf>