

PHD OPPORTUNITY CALL

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD candidate to apply for the forthcoming FI 2025 grant from the Generalitat de Catalunya. More information about this grant from the 2025 call can be found [here](#).

The candidate will join the research group Genetics and Environment in Psychiatry (GAP, <https://www.iispv.cat/grup/gap-genetica-i-ambient-en-psiquiatria/>) that belongs to the Pere Virgili Health Research Institute (IISPV) and the Pere Mata Institute University Hospital. The IISPV is a public sector institution that promotes and develops the research of the Hospital Universitari of the Tarragona Joan XXIII, the Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus, Hospital Tortosa Verge de la Cinta, the mental health Pere Mata Institute and the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (www.urv.cat). The GAP investigates genetic and environmental factors and the mechanisms that are involved in the development of psychiatric disorders. The group conducts research by analysing both their own genetic data obtained from participants in the funded projects and from repositories of research data. Among the different psychiatric diagnoses, the group currently focuses on psychosis, bipolar disorder, as well as their comorbidities.

Background:

Deciphering the role of genetics in the weight increase associated with schizophrenia.

Weight gain and obesity are a major health problem and increase the risk of developing cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. People with psychotic disorders have a higher risk of being overweight than the general population.

The present project aims to investigate to what extent genetic determinants are important in weight gain in people at an early stage of psychosis. The candidate will

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work in the premises of the URV conducting dry-lab bioinformatics genetics research, including the generation and maintenance of databases, programming, statistical analysis and interpretation of results. She/he will also co-lead the dissemination of results in papers and meetings.

Main tasks

Conduct individual and collaborative research projects
Data analysis / bioinformatic analyses
Developing new research techniques and methods to analyse omic data
Perform GWAS analyses and polygenic risk scoring.
Making presentations at national and international conferences and similar events
Teaching and supervision of Master and Bachelor students

Candidate requirements

- 1- Degree in the field of life sciences, average score > 2.7.
- 2- Master's degree obtained in the last 2 years, average score > 2.7.
- 3- Fluent English.
- 4- Basic knowledge in statistics and programming.
- 5- Publications, posters, congress attendance and other merits will be well-considered.
- 6- Fulfill the requirements of the call.

What we offer

We offer a stimulating and diverse work environment, with dedicated support for developing an academic career. Members of our research group are part of international networks (p.e. the Psychiatric Genetics Consortium) and benefit from opportunities to attend conferences and workshops around the world.

Candidates should send an e-mail to muntaneg@peremata.com enclosing a letter of presentation, academic records and the CV indicating as subject: FI 2025.

Deadline: November 1, 2024

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The IISPV has the European accreditation The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R), complies with the general principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers.

The IISPV has an internal recruitment policy that follows the Open, Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment (OTM-R) policies. More information about the HRS4R policies implemented at the IISPV is available on the following website: <https://www.iispv.cat/hrs4r-hr-excellenceresearch/>

The IISPV will guarantee the right to equal opportunities and treatment, as well as the real and effective exercise of rights by people with disabilities under equal conditions with respect to other citizens, through the promotion of personal autonomy, universal accessibility, access to employment, inclusion in the community and independent living and the eradication of any form of discrimination, in accordance with articles 9.2, 10, 14 and 49 of the Spanish Constitution and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and international treaties and agreements ratified by Spain.

In the event of a tie, priority will be given to hiring the person with a disability.

In the event of a tie between people of different genders, the person of the least represented gender in the work group/department/service in which he joins will be hired.

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