

Candidates for PhD study in imaging of atherosclerosis

The Experimental Pathology of Atherosclerosis Lab at CNIC, headed by Jacob Fog Bentzon, is searching for candidates to perform a PhD study within imaging of atherosclerosis.

Development of non-invasive imaging techniques that are capable of measuring atherosclerotic disease activity is key for increasing our understanding of the causes of human atherosclerosis and for testing the efficacy of preventive strategies.

The overarching hypothesis of the PhD is that tracking of lipoprotein retention in atherosclerotic lesions can provide such a measure, and the student will develop and test non-invasive techniques to measure this process in small and large animal models.

The student will have cutting-edge tools for this line of work, including gene modified minipigs and new methods for temporal control of atherosclerotic disease activity in mice and minipigs. The imaging experiments are performed in collaboration with the Advanced Imaging Unit at CNIC.

Candidates should have a keen interest in working with atherosclerosis models as well as a desire to understand the technical aspects of imaging with PET/CT and MR.

Selection criteria include motivation towards translational cardiovascular research and a strong academic record.

Please apply online by June 5th 2016 with a motivation letter in English and a CV including average grades on the 0-10 scale from MSc and BS degrees to jacobfog.bentzon@cnic.es, indicating in the subject "Predoctoral. Jacob Fog Bentzon 2016" For translation of foreign grades please use <http://notasmedias.aneca.es/home>.

This information does not contain a public job offer. Job offers for specific vacancies are posted on the job portal <https://www.cnic.es/en/empleo/ofertas-empleo>. Interested candidates should send their applications via the appropriate specific job offer, otherwise they won't be evaluated. The specific job offer is therefore, the only channel of participation in selection processes.

References:

1. Al-Mashhadi RH *et al.* Familial hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis in cloned minipigs created by DNA transposition of a human PCSK9 gain-of-function mutant. *Science Translational Medicine*. 2013;5:166ra1 (<http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/5/166/166ra1.long>)

2. Al-Mashhadi RH et al. In vivo high resolution isotropic 3D MRI of coronary atherosclerosis in hypertensive hypercholesterolemic minipigs. *Circulation* 2014; 130: A17809
(http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/130/Suppl_2/A17809.abstract)