



R1-Predoctoral Researcher (G1) at the Pathogenesis of autoimmune neuronal disorders research group.

Code: FU-44/2026

About the institution

The Barcelona Clinical Research Foundation-August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) is a biomedical research centre of excellence, located on the Barcelona Clinic Campus and with a clear international focus.

The IDIBAPS research community includes over 2,000 professionals and a hundred multidisciplinary groups that carry out high-impact translational research aimed at addressing biological and clinical questions relevant to human health, as evidenced by the more than 1,500 original articles published each year that make the institution one of the main biomedical research centres in Spain.

The Clínic Campus offers a high-level research and innovation environment, which includes the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona, a referral hospital committed to care, research and teaching, which covers practically all medical and surgical specialties, plus the University of Barcelona's Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. The latter dates from 1843 and is today one of the most prestigious health sciences faculties in Spain and worldwide.

Since 2015, IDIBAPS has had [HR Excellence in Research](#) accreditation from the European Commission. It is a CERCA centre and is accredited as a Health Research Institute by the Carlos III Health Institute (ISCIII).

Most relevant IDIBAPS figures

~100

Research groups

+2,000/year

Publications
+1,400 original articles

+2,000

People devoted to research

~80,000,000€/year

Implemented funds

~300/year

New competitive projects

+1,000

Active competitive projects

~90

Patent portfolio

~100/year

Doctoral theses

~50/year

Seminars



UNIÓN EUROPEA

Job description

2 R1 positions for motivated predoctoral researchers to join IGNITION – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Doctoral Network (MSCA-DN), funded by the European Union (EU) under Grant Agreement Nº 101227384.

IGNITION program is dedicated to understand Anti-IgLON5 disease through a transnational and interdisciplinary consortium, bringing together 10 different European institutions. All information about the IGNITION PhD program can be found in the IGNITION website.

This European call offers 2 PhD positions hosted at IDIBAPS, from a total of 13 PhD positions across IGNITION's European partners.

While doing their PhD thesis, the fellow will be invited to participate training and career development activities to grow professionally. To develop this project and ensure a proper career development it is expected to perform one or more secondments in other institutions (international, intersectorial and/or interdisciplinary). During the PhD process, the fellow will have to be registered in a doctoral program in the university. At the end of the contract, it is expected that the fellow will defend its PhD thesis. Once the fellow starts their contract, they will detail more the particular project, that will be guided by the following project:

Title: Advancements in clinical understanding and treatment of anti-IgLON5 disease

This PhD project aims to improve the clinical understanding of anti-IgLON5 disease by studying its natural history using longitudinal clinical data and biological samples.

The work will focus on evaluating disease progression and outcomes through established and new emerging biomarkers of inflammation and neurodegeneration, as well as exploring biomarker approaches with relevance for therapeutic development in tau-related disorders. Overall, the project seeks to bridge clinical observation and translational research, contributing to improved disease stratification, patient management, and awareness.

Main objectives:

1. We aim to study the natural history of the disease using retrospectively and prospectively collected clinical information and samples.
2. To evaluate progression and outcome of anti-IgLON5 disease through biomarkers of inflammation and neurodegeneration.
3. Discovery of new fluid biomarkers to speed up the development of valuable treatments for tauopathies.

Requirements for all the positions

Applicants must:

1. Not already possess a Doctoral degree (PhD).
2. Not have resided or carried out the main activity (studies, work) in Spain for more than 12 months in the 36 months prior the call deadline. This is in accordance with the mobility rule of the MSCA programme.

3. Have studies that allow access the doctoral studies in Spain:

- ◇ European Higher Education System: university Degree and Master or equivalent education are at least 300 ECTS and allows the candidate access to a PhD programme in Spain.
- ◇ Non-European Higher Education System: university degree that gives access to doctoral studies in the Country of issue (certified by the competent body). All the documentation must be delivered both legalised and officially translated to English (if applies).

4. Have a good English level to apply to the program.

Candidates from diverse scientific fields are allowed: biology, biotechnology, engineering, physics, medical sciences, or related disciplines. No nationality restrictions applied.

IMPORTANT: Some eligibility criteria such as mobility requirement will have to be included in the job offer: Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity in Spain for more than 12 months in the 36 months prior to the call deadline.

More information on the eligibility criteria is available on the Guide for Applicants in the [IGNITION website](#).

Candidates can select up to three potential individual projects among the 13 offered around Europe. You can find all the information of the projects in the [IGNITION website](#).

Experience and knowledge

Once the eligibility check is done to confirm that the candidates meet the eligibility criteria, an open and transparent process will start (following OTM-R). A Selection Panel from the research group will evaluate the candidate's profile in a fair and individual assessment. Specific knowledge and experiences to be considered along the process are:

1. Candidate's background:

Academic record and grades

Research experience

Fellowships and awards

Publications

Other merits (Outreach, teaching, event organisation, Student communities)

2. Knowledge and science:

Specific expertise and skills acquired during previous academic education and research experience.

Motivation to participate in the specific project

Capacity to clearly present scientific results

Ability to think critically and independently

The desirable project-specific qualifications and skills for this particular project are: MD degree, Neurologist. Knowledge of Spanish and/or Catalan is recommended, or willingness to learn

quickly. Strong interest in autoimmune diseases of the CNS, neurodegeneration, and/or sleep disorders. Enthusiasm for patient-oriented research and translational neuroscience. Willingness to work in a dynamic and collaborative clinical and research environment.

Conditions of the fellowship

- **Type of contract:** Temporary predoctoral contract (3 years).
- **Working hours:** Full time (37.5 hours / week).
- **Line of research:** MSCA-Doctoral Network.
- **Project:** IGNITION: Anti-IgLON5 disease: From Neuroinflammation to Neurodegeneration.
- **Funder and official project code:** European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101227384.
- **Incorporation into IDIBAPS:** A research centre of excellence in the city of Barcelona. Excellent research results and competitive project grant awards, both national and international.
- **Working mode:** Hybrid. Teleworking 2/3 days a week (allowed after a period of onsite training).
- **Working conditions:** Holiday entitlement of 22 days + 6 days for personal affairs, flexible working hours and flexible remuneration (health insurance, transport, meal vouchers, training).
- **Optional:** other allowances are contemplated in the PhD program, such as the long-term leave and the special needs allowance. Family allowance would grant extra 11.800€/year when applicable (married researchers or legally equivalent, dependent children), either at the time of recruitment or acquired during the program. Proof will be required.
- **Access to training and career development opportunities:** the fellow will take advantage of the training program and seminars offered by IDIBAPS, as well as IGNITION-specific doctoral schools and international and/or intersectoral secondments. Find more information in the [IGNITION website](#).
- **Annual gross salary:** 44.434,45€ (including living and mobility allowances).
- **Expected starting date:** between June and the September 2026.

How to apply

Submit the requested information through the [online application tool](#). Proposals must be written in English.

1. Application Form including all the information. Once the online application form has been submitted, an automatic Pdf file will be generated and sent to your e-mail address.
2. To finalize the application, it is **mandatory** to send this document to IGNITION'S Project Manager (IGNITION@recerca.clinic.cat) along with additional information needed:
 - a. Academic records:
 - i. For studies completed in Spain or in another Country within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), candidates must provide proof of having completed at least 300 ECTS credits (degree titles).

- ii. For studies completed in non-EU Countries outside the EHEA, candidates must provide evidence that their qualifications grant access to doctoral studies in the Country where they were obtained. In such cases, it is recommended to submit a legalized degree, officially translated into English.
- b. English certificate: if you have one, it can prove the candidate's English level.
- c. Two reference letters: must provide two reference letters from different referees. Ideally, these letters should be certified and include an electronic signature. Each letter must also include the referee's contact information (affiliation, email and phone number).

More information on how to apply is available on the Guide for Applicants on the [IGNITION website](#).

Mandatory: the duly signed Authorisation relating to EU Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of personal data (*attached document, page 7*) must be attached to the application

Selection process:

The evaluation process follows [open, transparent and merit-based recruitment criteria](#).

- 1) **Eligibility check:** it determines whether a candidate fulfils the eligibility criteria
- 2) **Evaluation phase:** it selects the best eligible candidates in terms of excellence
- 3) **Oral online interview:** assesses the candidate's scientific knowledge, motivation and overall alignment with the IGNITION program.
- 4) **Start of the fellowship:** The exact date of incorporation will be agreed with the research group and IDIBAPS once the fellowship is granted.

More information about the evaluation criteria and the timeline of the whole selection process can be found on the Guide for Applicants available on the [IGNITION website](#).

Deadline: April 1st 2026

For any doubts, please contact ignition@recerca.clinic.cat

The employment contract will be in accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree 1/1995, of 24 March, approving the text of the Workers' Statute Law, of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on science, technology and innovation in accordance with the provisions of Art. 2 of Royal Decree 2720/98, of 18 December (BOE of 8 January 1999), Law 12/2001, of 9 July (BOE of 10 July) and concordant provisions.

The principle of equal treatment between men and women fundamental, in accordance with Article 14 of the Spanish Constitution, the European Community Directive of 9 February 1976, and the provisions of the Agreement of the Council of Ministers of 4 March 2005, approving the

Plan for Gender Equality in the General State Administration.

The universal accessibility of people with disabilities is fundamental according to section 2 of Article 1 of Law 51/2003, of 2 December, on equal opportunities, and 5% of vacancies are reserved as long as candidates pass the selection processes and accredit their disability and compatibility with the tasks to be carried out, so that we progressively reach 2% of the total workforce.

The gross annual remuneration relating to the position that is the subject of this call will be established based on each candidate's experience and aptitudes.

[Link to Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679 of 27 April on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data](#)

Barcelona, on February 03, 2026.

Authorisation request

I hereby authorise:

The **FUNDACIÓ DE RECERCA CLÍNICA BARCELONA – INSTITUT D'INVESTIGACIONS BIOMÈDIQUES AUGUST PI I SUNYER (IDIBAPS)**, to process my data for personnel recruitment purposes, transferring them only in cases where legally required, in line with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, and the corresponding regulations that develop it.

Name and Surname:

DNI/NIE/ID:

Signed:

Barcelona,