

**NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Naples office**

Notice of selection for Research Fellowship n° 04-2025-IBBC-NA

PUBLIC SELECTION FOR THE AWARDING OF N. 2 RESEARCH GRANTS UNDER THE NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN (PNRR) OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH - MISSION 6 - COMPONENT 2 "*ENHANCEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH OF THE NHS*", UNDER MISSION M6 - COMPONENT C2 - INVESTMENT 2.1 FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION - NEXT GENERATION EU - Project code PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 "*Development of Innovative Personalized Idiotypic mRNA-Based Dendritic Cells and Lipid Nanoparticle Vaccines, for Indolent B-Cell Lymphomas and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia* CUP B63C24000520006 TO BE USED AT THE NAPLES HEADQUARTERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND CELL BIOLOGY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL.

The Director

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 213 of 31 December 2009, concerning "Reorganization of research institutions in implementation of art. 1 of Law no. 165 of 27 September 2007;

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 218 of 25 November 2016 on "Simplification of the activities of Public Research Bodies pursuant to Article 13 of Law no. 124 of 7 August 2015";

HAVING REGARD to the Statute of the CNR, issued by provision of the President of the CNR no. 93 prot. 0051080/2018 of 19/07/2018, of which the notice of publication was given on the website of the Ministry of Education, University and Research on 25 July 2018, which entered into force on 1 August 2018;

Having regard to Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 laying down new rules on administrative procedure and the right of access to administrative documents and subsequent amendments;

HAVING REGARD to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000 concerning "Consolidated Law on Legislative and Regulatory Provisions on Administrative Documentation" and subsequent amendments;

Having regard to Law No. 183 of 11 November 2011 and in particular Article 15 thereof (2012 Stability Law);

Having regard to the Directive of the Minister of Public Administration and Simplification no. 14/2011 for the application of the new provisions on certificates and substitute declarations referred to in art. 15 of Law no. 183 of 12 November 2011;

Having regard to Law no. 35 of 4 April 2012 converting Law Decree no. 5 of 9 February 2012, containing urgent provisions on simplification and development and in particular art. 8 paragraph 1 of the aforementioned Decree;

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 33 of 14 March 2013 on "Reorganisation of the regulations concerning the obligations of publicity, transparency and dissemination of information by public administrations";

Having regard to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003 "*Code regarding the protection of personal data*";

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EU) No. 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 published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 4 May 2016;

HAVING REGARD to the Provision of the Director General no. 78 concerning the assignment of the position of Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology (IBBC) to Dr. Anna MOLES, AMMCNT-CNR protocol no. 0200570 of 28/06/2023, starting from 01 July 2023;

HAVING REGARD to the Regulations for the awarding of Research Grants at the National Research Council approved by Resolution of the Board of Directors of the CNR no. 54 of 21 February 2023 (Prot. 231438/2023 of 25/07/2023);

HAVING REGARD to CNR Circular no. 19/2023, Entry into force of the Regulations for the awarding of Research Scholarships at the National Research Council – Resolution of the CNR Board of Directors no. 54 of 21 February 2023;

- **HAVING REGARD** to the PNRR Call of the Ministry of Health M6/C2 2023 "*Enhancement and enhancement of biomedical research in the NHS*", under Mission M6 - Component C2 - Investment 2.1 funded by the European Union - Next Generation EU with which the project identified with the PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 code, entitled "*Development of Innovative Personalized Idiotypic mRNA-Based Dendritic Cells and Lipid Nanoparticle Vaccines, for Indolent B-Cell Lymphomas and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia*" **Call Section:** Proof of concept (PoC), Principal Investigator dr. Paola Italiani, expiring on 31/08/2026, CUP B63C24000520006;

- **HAVING REGARD** to the admission to funding, amounting to Euro 998,845.00, of the Project "*Development of Innovative Personalized Idiotypic mRNA-Based Dendritic Cells and Lipid Nanoparticle Vaccines, for Indolent B-Cell Lymphomas and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemias*" – Scientific Director Dr. Maria Christina Cox, presented by the leader of the PTV Policlinico Tor Vergata Foundation in partnership with the Istituto Superiore di Sanità – Head of U.O.2 Dr. Lucia Gabriele, with CNR of Naples - Head of U.O.3 Dr. Paola Italiani and with University Hospital Policlinico "Paolo Giaccone" - Palermo Head of U.O.4 Dr. Salvatrice Mancuso;

- **HAVING REGARD** to the Operational Agreement, pursuant to art. 15 of Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, as amended, for the implementation of the PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 project signed between the Lazio Region, the PTV Policlinico Tor Vergata Foundation and Dr. Maria Christina Cox project manager - Principal Investigator;

- **HAVING REGARD** to the Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of the PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 project with CUP MASTER E83C24000780002, signed by the lead partner and the operating units;

- **ASCERTAINED** the coverage of the costs deriving from the allocation of the scholarship on the funds of the financial resources on the PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 project described in the preamble;

HAVING REGARD the availability of funds on the PRR.AP015.127 PNRR-POC-2023-12377901 Project indicated in the introduction, the CUP B63C24000520006, the variation of

higher costs/revenues no. 3687 ID DG 313261 of 07/22/2025 with which the sum of € 41,300.00 is assigned for the Co.An. Item: CA.C.2.01.04.02.03.001.14011- FOR OTHERWISE.

Art. 3 Admission requirements for the selection

Participation in the selection is free without limitations on citizenship.

To be admitted to the selection, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- a) Master's degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology, or Medical Biotechnology or similar, obtained in accordance with the regulations in force prior to Ministerial Decree 509/99, or a Master's Degree (Ministerial Decree of 5 May 2004), and a professional curriculum suitable for carrying out research activities.
- b) not have reached the age of thirty-five on the date of expiry of the deadline for the submission of applications.

Candidates who have obtained a degree from a foreign university declared "equivalent" according to current legislation are also admitted.

- c) do not have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to the fourth degree, with the Scientific Director of the research scholarship, with the Director/Head or with an employee belonging to the structure where the research scholarship is carried out.

Candidates who are not yet in possession of the measure for the recognition of the foreign qualification must attach to the application a copy of the application submitted by the deadline for submitting the application.

Required skills:

- d) Theoretical and/or practical preparation in hematology and immunology, with particular reference to the study of the functioning of dendritic cells, B lymphocytes and the main immune response mechanisms involved in hematological tumors. Organizational and data management skills.
- e) Proven experience in: Main techniques of cell and molecular biology, and for immunological characterization including: ELISA for the detection and quantification of cytokines, Flow cytometry for cell phenotyping (theoretical and/or practical): nucleic acid extraction, quantitative PCR to study gene expression.
- f) knowledge of both spoken and written English (level: Good);
- g) knowledge of the Italian language (only for foreign candidates).

It will be considered preferential to have had research experience in the onco-hematological field; experience on flow cytometric characterization of hematological malignancies; graduation grade

Art. 4 Procedures for submitting the application for admission

The application for admission to the public selection for the awarding of research grants must be submitted electronically through the CNR online selections platform (<https://selezionionline.cnr.it>).

The candidate will be able to access the CNR online selections application through the credentials obtained through registration on the same platform, through SPID (the Public Digital Identity

System) or through CIE credentials (Electronic Identity Card). Those who have already participated in a previous selection on the same site will not have to re-register.

For more information, consult the Manuals available on the Home Page of the portal (which can also be viewed without authentication).

The deadline for submitting the application is 15 days from the date of publication of the relevant notice in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic and on the CNR website (www.urp.cnr.it).

If the deadline for submitting applications falls on a public holiday, this deadline shall be extended to the first non-holiday day immediately following.

The date of submission of the application to participate in the procedure is certified by the computer system which, at the end of the deadline for submission, will no longer allow access to the procedure.

The candidate must:

- a. Fill in the **application form** on the platform indicated above;
- b. Attach the Pdf of the **curriculum vitae et studiorum**, including all the information, both substantive and formal, relating to the qualifications that you intend to submit to the evaluation of the examining committee;
- c. Attach the pdf of an **identity document** with a valid legible signature;
- d. print the form (automatically filled in by the procedure with the personal data entered by the candidate when entering the application), concerning the **declarations in lieu of certification and affidavit**, pursuant to articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000, sign it with a legible handwritten signature and attach it in Pdf format or insert the same digitally signed form;
- e. print the form (automatically filled in like the previous one), concerning the information on the **processing of personal data** pursuant to Regulation (EU) no. 2016/679, sign it with a legible handwritten signature and attach it in Pdf format or insert the same digitally signed form;
- f. Candidates who have obtained a degree from a foreign university must attach to the application the provision of recognition of the qualification issued in accordance with current legislation. Alternatively, they may attach to the application a copy of the request for recognition submitted by the deadline for submitting the application;
- g. Candidates who are third-country nationals must also attach a copy of the EC residence permit for long-term residents to the application or certify that they hold refugee status or subsidiary protection status.
- h. Definitively confirm the application for the production of the receipt.

The computer system issues the receipt of the correct submission of the application. Applications that are not definitively confirmed in the procedure remain in provisional status and will be considered null and void.

Candidates with disabilities, in relation to their disability, must explicitly request any necessary aids (*in the case of an interview*) *in the application for participation in the selection*.

For any information regarding the call for applications, please send an email to: segreteria.ibbc@ibbc.cnr.it.

The self-certifications required for Italian citizens apply to citizens of the European Union. Non-EU citizens residing in Italy may use the self-declarations limited to cases in which it is a matter of proving states, facts and personal qualities that can be certified or attested by Italian public or private entities.

Citizens of non-European Union countries, legally residing in Italy, can use the substitute declarations referred to in art. 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, limited to states, personal qualities and facts that can be certified or attested by Italian public bodies, or in cases where the production of the declarations themselves takes place in application of international conventions between Italy and the country of origin of the declarant.

Certificates or attestations issued by the competent authorities of the State of which the foreigner is a citizen, attesting to status, personal qualities and facts, must be accompanied by a translation into Italian authenticated by the Italian consular authority certifying their conformity to the original.

The Administration carries out appropriate checks on the veracity of the content of the substitute declarations pursuant to art. 71 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

The substitute declarations have the same temporal validity as the acts they replace (Article 48 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

The candidate must sign that he or she is aware that false declarations are punishable by law (Article 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

All communications relating to this selection will be sent to the certified email address of the candidates included in the application, for Italian candidates. For foreign candidates, communications will be sent to the ordinary e-mail address indicated in the application.

Art. 5 Exclusion from the selection

The following are grounds for ex officio exclusion:

- the submission of the application after the deadlines and in ways other than those indicated in art. 4;
- failure to possess the required qualification(s) referred to in art. 3 letter a);
- the lack of the requirement required by art. 3 letter b) relating to the maximum age limit;
- the lack of any other requirement provided for in art. 3;
- the verification of any cause of incompatibility referred to in art. 2.

Candidates are admitted to the selection with reservations. The Director of the Institute may at any time order exclusion from the selection for lack of the prescribed requirements. If the reasons for exclusion are ascertained after the selection has been completed, the Director shall forfeit all rights resulting from participation in the selection process. Candidates who are found to be untrue in one of the declarations provided for in the application for participation in the selection or of the declarations made pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 will also be forfeited.

Art. 6 Examining Committee, selection procedures and ranking

Candidates are judged by a Commission appointed by Determination of the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology.

The Commission's appointment will be published on the CNR website: www.urp.cnr.it and on the portal seleziononline.it

The Commission will be composed of three members, one of whom will act as President, one external to the CNR and the *Tutor* in charge of the research, all identified among experts in the subjects under study indicated in the call.

The selection of the winner will take place by qualifications and interview.

The Commission has a total of 30 points, of which: 10 points for qualifications and 20 points for the interview exam.

The categories of qualifications subject to evaluation are as follows: Master's degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology, Medical Biotechnology or similar, knowledge of the English language, skills in the research topic referred to in art.3.

To access the interview, the candidate must obtain a score of at least 7 points in the evaluation of qualifications.

The interview will be considered passed with a minimum score of 12 points.

The evaluation of qualifications precedes the completion of the interview.

The interview will focus on the subjects covered by the research scholarship and will allow foreign citizens to ascertain their knowledge of the Italian language.

The interview can also take place remotely. In the case of a videoconference interview, the adoption of technical solutions will be guaranteed to ensure its publicity, the identification of participants, the security of communications and their traceability, in compliance with the legislation on the protection of personal data.

In the invitation to the interview, which will be sent at least eight days in advance, the score accrued in the evaluation of qualifications, the date and place of the interview, if in person, or the platform that will be used for the remote interview will also be indicated. Candidates excluded for not achieving the minimum score will be notified of exclusion for lack of possession of the requirements.

Once all the interviews have been completed, the Commission formulates the merit ranking on the basis of the overall score obtained by each candidate, given by the sum of the scores attributed to the qualifications and the interview. In the event of a tie, preference will fall on the youngest candidate.

The Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology will verify the regularity of the procedure, approve the documents transmitted by the Commission, and publish the ranking list by posting it on the notice board of the examination center and on the CNR website: www.urp.cnr.it and will name the winner(s).

Art. 7 Nomination of the winner, acceptance, forfeiture, interruptions and renunciation of the scholarship

The Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology transmits to the winner(s) the act of awarding the Research Fellowship, together with the scholarship holder's work plan, containing the activities to be carried out during the scholarship. The deed of contribution will also indicate the effective date of the scholarship and the deadline for the formal acceptance of the contribution.

The candidate nominated as the winner must send, within ten days of the communication of appointment sent by the structure that issued the call, a declaration of acceptance of the scholarship, under penalty of forfeiture of the right. The information necessary for its tax classification must also be attached to this declaration.

Before proceeding with the awarding of the scholarship, the candidate in possession of a qualification obtained abroad (regardless of citizenship) must produce the certificate of equivalence issued by a competent authority. In the absence of the ascertainment of equivalence, the contribution of the scholarship will be deferred.

Holders of research grants must settle for the entire period of assignment of the scholarship in the place where it is used.

In the event of non-acceptance of the awarding of the research scholarship by the winning candidate, the scholarship will be awarded to the candidate placed in the next position in the ranking list. In the absence of suitable candidates, the Director issues a measure concluding the procedure with a negative outcome.

In the event of interruption of the scholarship for any reason during its development, the Director has the right to award, for the remaining period, provided that it is not less than 6 months, the scholarship to the candidate placed in the ranking list after the winner.

The disbursement of the research grant is suspended in the event of maternity or paternity, within the limits provided for by the current legislation on the protection and support of maternity and paternity (Articles 16, 16-bis, 17 and 28 of Legislative Decree 151/2001) or in cases of unavailability due to serious health reasons for a period of more than one month per year.

These cases do not entail the loss of the right to complete the study-research activity and, in such cases, the duration of the scholarship lasts for a period equal to that of the suspension. If the new deadline expires beyond the duration of the Project on which the scholarship has been announced, the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology has the right to consider the date of conclusion of the project as the deadline of the scholarship.

A scholarship holder who, after starting the planned activity, does not continue it regularly and uninterruptedly for the entire duration, without justified reason, who is responsible for serious deficiencies or who proves that he does not possess sufficient aptitude, may be declared forfeited by order of the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

If the scholarship holder decides not to complete the planned activity, he/she must promptly notify the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology and the *scientific director/Research Tutor*.

Art. 8 Carrying out and evaluation of activities and possible renewal

The activities covered by the research scholarship are defined in the work plan communicated to the winner of the selection together with the act of awarding the scholarship. The scholarship holder will carry out his or her activities without a predetermined time.

The scholarship holder must submit to the scientific director of the research (*Tutor*), a report on the activities carried out for each year of use of the scholarship, which will be evaluated by the Tutor.

The *Tutor* must ensure the training of the scholarship holder and draw up a report on the activity carried out by the same for each year of the relationship, to be sent to the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the CNR to which the scholarship holder refers.

The positive evaluation of the Tutor and the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the activities carried out by the holder of the research grant are necessary for the possible renewal of the scholarship.

In the event of a negative evaluation of the activity carried out, the *Tutor* sends a detailed report to the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the CNR of reference who will issue a measure, adequately motivated, of forfeiture of the scholarship.

Art. 9 Processing of personal data

The personal data transmitted by candidates with the applications for participation in the selection are processed, pursuant to and for the purposes of the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation no. 679/2016 – GDPR, exclusively for the purposes of the selection and any procedures for the attribution of the training tool. The provision of such data is mandatory for the purposes of assessing the requirements for participation, under penalty of exclusion from the selection itself.

Art. 10 Access to documents

The right of access to the documents of the selection procedure, pursuant to Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990 and subsequent additions and amendments, is exercised in accordance with the procedures set out in the regulations approved by resolution of the Board of Directors no. 90/2017, which can be consulted on the CNR website at the following link: https://www.cnr.it/sites/default/files/public/media/amministrazione_trasparente/All_1_delibera_and_Civico.pdf **Access Regulations**

The Person in charge of the Procedure is the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Dr. Anna Moles, email: segreteria.ibbc@ibbc.cnr.it.

Art. 11 Publicity

The *notice* of this call for applications is published in **the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic IV Special Series – Competitions and exams no. 58 of 25.07.2025** and the full text of the call for applications is published on the CNR website www.urp.cnr.it, on the <http://www.ibbc.cnr.it/> website and on the portal www.selezionionline.it.

For any information, please contact the IBBC secretariat, e-mail segreteria.ibbc@ibbc.cnr.it

The Director
Dr. Anna Moles