

## Scientific Infrastructures Director for the Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center

### About the employer

The Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC) is a research center dedicated to the prevention of Alzheimer's disease and the study of cognitive functions affected in healthy and pathological aging. It was created in 2012 by the Pasqual Maragall Foundation, with the support of the Pompeu Fabra University.

The mission of the BBRC is to provide innovative solutions to decipher and prevent biological changes and cognitive dysfunction associated with neurodegenerative diseases. Due to the aging of the world population, these diseases constitute a global challenge, since for example, dementia can reach epidemic levels in 2050, with a forecast of more than 150 million people affected, if it is not found a way to prevent its appearance and development.

The BBRC received the HR Excellence in Research award (HRS4R) granted by the European Commission; a recognition that shows its adherence to the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Research Staff. The center offers a stimulating and favorable working environment in accordance with the Charter and Code, which describe the rights and responsibilities of researchers and their employers, and contributes to the **creation of a transparent, attractive and open ecosystem** at international level.

Pasqual Maragall Foundation, Pompeu Fabra University and "la Caixa" Foundation are permanent members of the BBRC Board. The center is affiliated and located in the Ciutadella Campus of the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona, in a building inaugurated in 2016. The BBRC headquarters has excellent technical facilities, including a 3TMR scanner dedicated to research, and spaces for conducting Clinical Trials and EEG. State-of-the-art scientific facilities, effective management and continuous high-standard peer-review evaluation are the BBRC core proceedings to ensure achieving world-class research results.

BBRC is also part of the Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB), a large research facility that hosts other seven different research institutions related to biomedical research, including the Center for Genomic Regulation (CRG), the Hospital del Mar Medical Research Institute (IMIM), the Department of Experimental and Health Sciences of the Pompeu Fabra University (CEXS-UPF), the Institute of Evolutionary Biology (IBE CSIC-UPF), the Barcelona Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal) and the Barcelona site of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), among others, in a multidisciplinary, collaborative and stimulating international environment in close contact with a clinical setting, thus conducive to translational research.

For more information see: [www.fpmaragall.org](http://www.fpmaragall.org) and [www.barcelonabeta.org](http://www.barcelonabeta.org)

## About the project

A very important part of the research carried out at the BBRC is based on the data obtained in the Alfa Study (Alzheimer's and Families), promoted by "La Caixa" Foundation. The Alfa Study is a pioneering research infrastructure made up of nearly 3,000 cognitively healthy people (mostly descendants of patients with Alzheimer's disease), between the ages of 45 and 75, who voluntarily participate in the BBRC research studies. Depending on the project in which they participate, these people periodically carry out different clinical tests, biomarkers in cerebrospinal fluid or plasma, cognition and neuroimaging, and have the opportunity to participate in clinical prevention trials.

A second cohort, Beta-AARC (Alzheimer's At Risk Cohort) study aims to include about 200 participants (55-80 years), who are experiencing a decline in their memory or other cognitive abilities (people with Subjective Cognitive Decline)). Its main goal is the early detection of blood and digital biomarkers that represent the pathophysiological changes related to AD in people (either cognitively unimpaired or MCI) experiencing a subjective worsening of their cognitive performance. It is a longitudinal study with annual follow-up visits (MRI and lumbar puncture are performed only every 2 years).

Furthermore, BBRC is participating in clinical trials from the Pharma-industry in order to test the preventive effect of experimental drugs in a group of participants with positive AD biomarkers.

## About the job

BBRC is looking for a full-time position as Scientific Infrastructures Director reporting to the BBRC Director and as a member of the Management Committee, with the mission to assume the development and management of the Center's central scientific infrastructure, a cohort study with thousands of participants from all over Spain.

The candidate will manage a multidisciplinary team of approximately 20 people participating in the development of observational research studies and non-pharmacological and pharmacological intervention studies (clinical trials).

The Scientific Infrastructures Director will collaborate with the research teams (Faculty) in developing new studies.

## Main Responsibilities

The responsibilities for this position include:

- Representing the Center and the Scientific Infrastructure (longitudinal cohort study, among others) in national and international conferences, before other research centers, research groups, pharmaceutical laboratories, leading researchers, etc. to identify and promote opportunities for projects, studies, collaborations and alliances.
- Developing a network of national and international alliances with actors who wish to exploit the Center's scientific infrastructure from a scientific perspective.
- Ensuring the management of the infrastructure of scientific data and samples, and access to it based on the security standards.

- Corroborating the scientific, operational and legal quality of ongoing studies.
- Verifying the highest quality standards for clinical research, guiding internal and external researchers on the methods, standards, procedures and other advanced methodological issues.
- Managing and developing the team of professionals under your responsibility.

### **Required qualifications and professional experience**

- Bachelor's degree in Medicine. A specialty in Neurology will be valued.
- Medical specialties focused on the area of prevention (for example, cardiology, geriatrics, etc.) will be valued.
- Institutional representation capacity and with orientation to establish and cultivate relationships (networking) with agents of the health system, agents of the research ecosystem, among others, to contribute to developing the Center's scientific infrastructure.
- Capacity to generate international consortiums.
- Experience in clinical research and protocol design.
- Experience in cohort management: open access management protocols, linked publications, big data and open science, among others.
- Experience in preparing budgets and in quantifying the resources necessary to develop projects: equipment, personnel, spaces, etc.
- Experience in managing multidisciplinary teams.
- Excellent verbal and written skills in English.
- Willingness to travel nationally and internationally.
- Good skills in the technological field.
- Experience in hospital environments, auditing and inspections of clinical trials, by pharmaceutical companies and regulatory agencies will be valued.
- Knowledge of Catalan and/or Spanish will be valued.

### **Personal skills**

- Institutional sensibilities.
- Global and strategic vision.
- Collaborative leadership.
- Relationship skills, communication and relationship management.
- Organizational and analytical abilities.

### **We offer**

- Starting date: As soon as possible
- Full-time position, 38hours weekly.
- Salary will depend on experience and will be in accordance to BBRC's salary scales.
- Hybrid working model (on-site + teleworking)

- The Foundation offers an extended vacation period and the possibility of benefit from flexible working hours.

We offer and promote a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applicants regardless of age, disability, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity. And the unique research opportunity in a highly innovative project in a multidisciplinary institution.

In the foundation we also care about developing your professional. We evaluate the potential of our team in order to develop those skills necessary to achieve a high level of professional performance.

### **Application process**

To apply, please submit a single PDF file containing the following:

- 1) Cover letter describing research interests and relevant background;
- 2) CV
- 3) The names of up to three individuals who could provide reference letters. All files or inquiries should be submitted electronically to: [talent@barcelonabeta.org](mailto:talent@barcelonabeta.org)

### **Subject: Scientific Infrastructures Director**

We inform you that your personal data will be part of a file which Pasqual Maragall Foundation and Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center is responsible for, in order to manage the job offer you have requested. Once the process is complete, the data processed will be erased.

You have the right to exercise the rights of access, rectification, cancellation and opposition recognized in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation), to be addressed to the Pasqual Maragall Foundation and Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center: Wellington Street 30, 08005 Barcelona.