Post-doc to the Laboratory of Molecular Basis of Synaptic Plasticity

Entity:	Centre of New Technologies, University of Warsaw
City:	Warsaw
WWW:	http://cent.uw.edu.pl
Requirements:	• PhD in biology or related sciences (the applicant must have obtained her/his doctoral degree no sooner than 7 years before the starting year of the employment in the project, excluding maternity/paternity leave and health leave); • documented research experience in molecular biology; • strong interest in neurobiology; • fluent English; • previous training in neurobiology, animal experimentation, bioimaging, electron microscopy or electrophysiology is a plus; • capacity for logical and critical thinking; • ability to direct her/his experimental efforts independently.
Job Duties:	Laboratory of Molecular Basis of Synaptic Plasticity in a newly established Centre of New Technologies, University of Warsaw, has an opening for a post-doc position in the project "Ultrastructure of hair cells of the organ of Corti and the effects of minocycline on responses to acustic stimulation in a mouse model of fragile X syndrome" funded by the National Science Centre. The project leader is Magdalena Dziembowska. **Short summary of the project and the key responsibilities** The mechanisms underlying the disturbance of the response to acoustic signals in patients with fragile X (FXS) syndrome are very poorly understood. At the same time, it is known that children suffering from FXS exhibit hypersensitivity to auditory stimuli. Sensory cells (inner hair cells) grouped in the organ of Corti play the key role in the processing of auditory information. Preliminary results of our research with the use of mice deficient in Fmr1 gene expression (Fmr1 KO) indicate morphological changes in the synaptic layer of the hair cells. Since this is the first synaptic connection from sensory cells to the brain, we hypothesize that the differences in synapse structure that we observed can at least partly account for disturbances in sound reception in FXS. The main objectives of the project are to analyze the morphology and ultrastructure of hair cells, to check the effect of minocycline on potential defects in the morphology of these cells and to evaluate changes in the processing of auditory stimuli by means of electrophysiology in vivo. One postdoctoral position is planned in the grant and the person will be responsible for design and execution of most of the experiments, data analysis and writing of manuscripts. For the realization of all planed research tasks it will be important to find a candidate which fulfills the following criteria: - expertise in animal handling and appropriate certificate - expertise in immunofluorescent labelling and confocal microscopy - sample preparation and imaging electron microscopy (basic) Additionally dissection of the Corti organ and imaging of the cochlea will be a strong point in recruitment procedure.
Type of NCN grant and Pannell:	Opus/ NZ

Deadline for applications:	31/07/2018 12:00pm
Employment conditions:	1. Status: Full time position 2. Employment: Contract 3. Type: Defined 4. Period: 36 months (including 3 month probation) planned start date: August 2018 (flexible). 5. Remuneration: approximately 6 000 PLN per month plus a thirteen salary;
Additional information:	1. Required documents: • cover letter; • scientific CV including your personal data, education, research experience, main achievements, • list of publications; • PhD certificate, or master degree certificate with a statement about the foreseen date of PhD thesis defense; • contact details for two people that can provide recommendations. 2. Method of application: apply via email to m.dziembowska@cent.uw.edu.pl (please write "application for a postdoc position" in the mail's subject line) • offers will be accepted till 31st July • we reserve the rights to interview the shortlisted candidates only; • the results will be announced via email; in the case of not signing the contract by the selected candidate, due to the resignation, we reserve the rights to choose the next candidate from the ranking list.
Researcher profile:	Recognised (R2)
Research Field:	Neurobiology
Keywords:	hair cells, fragile X syndrome, synapse, minocycline

Information and agreement clause

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