

Post-Doctoral position at the Molecular Biotechnology Center, Torino.

Announcement

We are pleased to announce an opening for Post-Doctoral position in the field of molecular biology and therapeutic applications in breast cancer and melanoma progression. The laboratory (lab) is located at the Molecular Biotechnology Center (MBC), Dept. Mol. Biotechnology and Health Sciences, Via Nizza, 52, Torino. The successful candidate will be supported by a competitive salary (*Assegno di ricerca* or Fellowship).

Project

The research project will focus on the use of “microRNAs as targets for therapy” and will be conducted in the Laboratory of “microRNAs and Adhesion molecules in tumor progression”, leaded by Prof. Daniela Taverna, at the MBC. The lab has identified a couple of microRNAs which are involved in the control of melanoma and breast cancer dissemination. One of them is highly present not only in tumor cells but also in the stroma components, such as Cancer Associated Fibroblasts (CAFs) and Mesenchymal Stem Cells (MSCs). The lab has dissected their molecular mechanism of action and the investigators are now inquiring their impact on the metabolic alterations which occur during cancer progression. In parallel, we are developing conjugated aptamers to specifically hit these small non-coding RNAs in tumor or stroma cells and inhibit metastasis formation. The successful candidate will be involved in generating and analyzing chimeric aptamers with *in vitro* and *in vivo* models. It is anticipated that this research will generate preclinical evidence for innovative clinical treatments. The Post-Doctoral Fellow will work in close collaboration with a multidisciplinary team of researchers and will independently develop his/her own project.

Requirements

- PhD degree in a relevant field linked to tumor biology, molecular and cellular biology.
- Proficiency in *in vitro* techniques such as cell culture and basic biological assays; protein and nucleic acid manipulation and analysis. Experience in mouse handling and animal sample preparation is appreciated.
- Strong analytical and critical thinking skills.

Application process

Applications can be sent to Prof. Daniela Taverna (daniela.taverna@unito.it). Please include:

- A detailed CV highlighting research experience and extracurricular activities.
- A cover letter expressing motivation and research interests.
- Contact information for at least two referees who can provide reference letters.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.