COMPUTATIONAL MEDICINAL CHEMIST

AccelBio is looking for one **Computational Medicinal Chemist** to join AccelBio, in the scope of the project <Pacto de Inovação "HfPT – Health from Portugal">, with the funding support of «Agendas/Alianças mobilizadoras para a Inovação Empresarial» Component 5 of Resilience and Recuperation Plan (PRR) under the call n.º 02/C05-i01/2022.

Job summary

We are seeking a talented and motivated Computational Medicinal Chemist with a strong background in the biotech/pharma industry. As a key member of the drug discovery group, you will play a crucial role in advancing our pipeline by applying computational techniques to validate new targets and design and optimize new therapeutics.

Responsibilities

- Lead the medicinal chemistry efforts by applying in-depth knowledge of structure-activity relationships (SAR) and target biology for assessing the on- and off-target activity, physical properties, pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics (PK/PD), toxicity and synthetic feasibility of therapeutic compounds, based on computational and molecular modelling methodologies;
- Work at the intersection of experimental and groundbreaking digital technologies, with a particular emphasis on expertise in machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) as applied to drug discovery;
- Develop and implement cutting-edge algorithms and software for molecular simulation, docking, virtual screening, and AI-driven *de novo* drug design;
- Utilize digital tools and AI technologies to hasten the drug discovery process and forecast pre-clinical testing;
- Be tightly integrated in a multidisciplinary drug discovery team making substantial intellectual contributions to program direction, molecular design, and synthetic priority;
- Collaborate with translational scientists to maximize savvy usage of predictive modeling;
- Maintain an active role in pertinent national, EU, and global networks and initiatives centered around computational chemistry and drug discovery;
- Contribute effectively to grant writing, publications, and presentations in the realm of computational chemistry and medicinal research;

— Stay abreast of the latest advancements in computational medicinal chemistry, especially AI technologies, and integrate these breakthroughs into our research framework.

Required skills and qualifications

— PhD in Computational Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, or a related discipline. Applicant should be fluent in chemistry to influence compound design and productively engage with medicinal chemists and other scientists;
— Proven experience in the biotech/pharma industry, especially in computational drug design, is preferred;
— Demonstrable achievements in leveraging computational methodologies to fuel drug discovery projects;
— Proficiency with common computational chemistry software suites and a keen understanding of AI technologies for *de novo* drug design;
— Good communication skills and proficiency in English, both in written and spoken.

Preferred skills and qualifications

— Ability to work in a startup environment and with government, academia or industry;
— Team player, capacity to train other scientists;
— Proven leadership and management skills;
— Ability to navigate, problem-solve, execute, and lead in a dynamic, fast-paced and evolving environment.

About AccelBio | Collaborative Laboratory to Foster Translation and Drug Discovery

AccelBio is a collaborative laboratory that aims to be the bridge that brings biomedical science closer to the market. With a set of partners that cover all the necessary capacities and expertise to drive drug discovery, AccelBio selects fundamental research discoveries and cutting-edge technology platforms and tools and guides the transformation of breakthrough science into validated and investment-worthy assets. AccelBio complements academic research groups and start-ups with industry-standard drug discovery capabilities - target validation, assay development, high-throughput screening, in silico modelling, medicinal chemistry, in vitro and in vivo testing, IP support and business development. Innovative platforms are also being developed within a well-defined R&I agenda that will further boost drug discovery. By providing these capacities and

specialized expertise, AccelBio will de-risk drug discovery assets until they are ready to be out-licensed to industry or established as the foundation of new spin-off companies.

AccelBio consists of the following **associate members**

- Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes
- Instituto Superior Técnico
- Universidade de Coimbra
- Biocant Park
- Roche Portugal
- BSIM Therapeutics
- CellmAbs
- TargTex
- Basinnov
- Vertical Sentinel
- Biovance Capital

Monthly remuneration

Gross monthly remuneration is 3.209,67€.

Start Date and workplace

The contract is expected to start in April 2024 and is maintained for the duration required to execute the outlined work plan; the activities will be developed at Instituto de Medicina Molecular in Lisbon and/or other necessary locations to their execution.

Evaluation criteria

The admitted applications will be evaluated based on the quality and relevance of their professional path and their adequacy to the proposed plan, through the analysis of the Curriculum Vitae (90%) and Interview (10%). Only the candidates with a score above 80% in the CV assessment will proceed to the interview stage. After evaluation of all admitted applications, the jury will write a meeting minute with all process of recruitment, evaluation and selection including an ordered short list of approved candidates (alphabetic order) and their respective classification.
The final decision of the jury shall be validated by AccelBio Direction.

Members of the jury

The jury is composed by Bárbara Gomes (PhD, President of the Jury), Gonçalo Bernardes (PhD), Silvia Almeida (PhD) and Hugo Almeida (MBA).

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Application process

Submission of the CV, motivation letter and Degree(s) Certificates at AccelBio's website, from January 05th to January 25th.

Note: The non-compliance with these requirements will result in the rejection of the application.

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