







*IRTA is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda. IRTA is one of the CERCA centers of excellence of the Catalan Research System. Our purpose is to contribute to the modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of agriculture, food and aquaculture sectors, the supply of healthy and quality foods for consumers and, generally, improving the welfare and prosperity of the society. We are granted by the EU with the [HRS4R](#) distinction for "HR Excellence in Research" and thus we offer a rich environment for knowledge development and exchange where to develop a scientific career, and possibilities for professional promotion according to the attained achievements. Check our initiatives [here](#).*

## PhD candidate for the Animal Health Program

[CPI2323]

IRTA is currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated PhD candidate to join the [Animal Health Program](#). We invite applications from ambitious candidates with relevant research experience and passion to conduct research and innovation activities on the "NEXT GENERATION VACCINES AGAINST GASTROINTESTINAL MUCOSAL PATHOGENS, USING HELICOBACTER PYLORI AS MODEL PATHOGEN" in the frame of the Vax2Muc Project (Horizon H2020 - European Programme).

-  Supervisor/s: Prof. Dr Joaquim Segalés and Dr Marina Sibila Vidal
-  Job location: [CReSA](#), Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès), Barcelona
-  Full-time position (37.5 h/week)
-  Terms of appointment: The duration of the PhD Candidate contract will be for one year, extendible by yearly periods to a maximum of 3 years.
-  Salary: The financial remuneration will be of €1,291.18 gross per month (€ 18,076.52/gross per annum) for the first year. For the second year will be of €1,311.41 gross per month (€ 18,359.74/gross per annum). For the third year, it will be €1,619.64/gross per month (€ 22,674.96/gross per annum) and for the fourth year it will be € 1,729.26/gross per month (€ 24,209.64/gross per annum), which will be subject to the corresponding withholdings, pursuant to prevailing regulations, and to the collective employment agreement of IRTA <sup>(1)</sup>  
IRTA will also pay the annual fees of the doctoral school when receiving the enrolment.
-  Employee Benefits: 22 vacation days, 3 days of family & work conciliation, 45h of personal days, Friday afternoon off, Compressed Summer schedule from 15/06 to 15/09, Conciliation schedule.

### Tasks and Responsibilities:

The PhD student will be mainly involved in developing the activities to achieve specific objectives of the project:

- To develop and optimize an animal model (pig) to study *Helicobacter pylori* infection.
- To apply and validate PCR and ELISA methods to detect genome of the bacterium and antibodies against it.
- To study the pathogenesis and immunity of *H. pylori* infection in pigs
- To test vaccine products against *H. pylori* developed by the EU consortium in the pig model
- To disseminate the obtained results in scientific conferences and peer-reviewed journals.

## Required qualifications and experience

- Candidates must hold a degree in Veterinary Medicine (preferentially), Biology or similar.
- Candidates (in case of not being veterinarians) must hold one of the following degrees/conditions:
  - a) A Master's in biotechnology, biochemistry, biology, animal health or similar; or
  - b) To be able to access a doctoral programme according to the requirements of Catalan universities, *i.e.*, accrediting between 60 and 120 ECTS credits at the official university master's degree level or equivalent.
- Not having a previous PhD degree.
- Candidates who have been chosen for an interview with the Selection Committee, should bring –for the interview- a certified copy of the degree and/or master, as well as the academic record showing the marks of all subjects studied.

## Desirable requirements

- Good oral communication and writing skills in English.
- Experience in molecular, immunological and/or virological techniques.
- Experience in *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* models.
- Driving license

## Languages

- Proficiency in English
- Catalan and Spanish are valued

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## Application process

If you wish to be considered for this position, please, apply via our [Recruitment Platform](#) to the job post with reference CPI2323 and upload your CV and motivation letter. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**Deadline for application: 07/10**

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Timings in the Recruitment Process of ref. CPI2323

**VACCINE AGAINST HELICOBACTER PYLORI: A PIG MODEL**

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**30 natural days**

Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social media and other specific recruitment places.

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**5 following working days**

Distribution of the pre-selected CVs which matching eligibility criteria to the Recruitment Committee. Communication via e-mail with the not pre-selected candidates who will not be further included in the process.

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20 following working days	<p>Recruitment Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication via e-mail with the not-selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee.</li> <li>- Interview with selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee.</li> <li>- Accord of the Recruitment Committee stating the selected candidate and detailed reasoning for the decline of the rest of the candidates.</li> <li>- Communication via e-mail with the interviewed and not-selected candidates</li> </ul>
10 following working days	<p>Provision by the selected candidate of requested legal and official documentation to the HR department to coordinate the start of the candidate.</p>
Last Trimester 2023	Start of employment

IRTA guarantees an open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment process (OTM-R) to all registered candidacies avoiding thus any bias on gender, origin, age, ideology, or other circumstances that could be discriminatory. Candidates in a situation of social exclusion will be considered in the first place.

*Please know that if you are the chosen candidate and you are from a country which does not belong to the UE, IRTA's Human Resources Department will support you to get the residence and working permits.*

<sup>(1)</sup> The financial remuneration of the PhD Candidate contract may not be less than 56% of the salary established for the category of Research Collaborator F of the Collective Agreement of the IRTA during the first two years, 60% in the third year and 75% in the fourth.