

Project Title/ Job Position title: Tobacco smoking and exposure to second-hand and third-hand smoke in adults: EurestPlus-Spain cohorts / Pre-doctoral researcher

Area of Knowledge: Life sciences

Group of disciplines: Public health, Tobacco control

Research project/ Research Group description

The Tobacco Control Unit ('Unitat de Control del Tabac', UCT) at the Catalan Institute of Oncology in Hospitalet de Llobregat, Spain, is a young and enthusiastic unit that comprises a multidisciplinary group of professionals trained in medicine, psychology, epidemiology, nursing, statistics and other fields of health sciences. The UCT is responsible for tobacco intervention initiatives, such as the tobacco cessation consultation to patients and workers, as well as the coordination of the Catalan Network of Smoke-Free Hospitals. Besides, the UCT carries out research and evaluation of a broad spectrum of tobacco control related topics. UCT has been designated a WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco Control.

The research project "Tobacco smoking and exposure to second-hand and third-hand smoke in adults: EurestPlus-Spain cohorts" has recently received financial support in the context of the national call for grants by the Spanish Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness. The main objectives of this project are to assess changes in the smoking pattern of smokers after the transposition of the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD) in Spain and to characterize the determinants of the exposure to second-hand and third-hand smoke in non-smoker population. This research project is an extension of the EurestPlus project, financed by the H2020 Programme, whose main objective is to monitor and evaluate the impact of the TPD in 6 European countries, including Spain. Basically, the research project associated to this job position adds one follow-up time point of the Spanish smoker cohort and it sets up a new cohort of non-smokers. Besides, it introduces objective measures of second-hand and third-hand smoke exposure; this last one has never been studied in Spain previously.

Job position description

We offer an exciting opportunity to a pre-doctoral researcher who aims to develop an outstanding research career in the field of tobacco control. The selected candidate will acquire abilities to proactively and independently carry out research activities in this field (quantitative and qualitative methodologies, communication skills, etc.). The candidates are expected to join a Doctoral Programme in Biomedicine at the University of Barcelona to pursue a Doctoral degree.

The pre-doctoral researcher will perform tasks related to the diverse phases of the study, including the bibliographic research and the review of the questionnaire for non-smokers, as well as the fieldwork planning. The pre-doctoral researcher will be directly involved in the management of the biological and environmental samples collected and in the data processing and analysis. The pre-doctoral researcher will also contribute to the dissemination of the results: preparation of reports, scientific publications, as well as presentation of study results at national and international conferences.

Responsibilities:

- Development and management of his/her research plan
- Study coordination and data collection
- Management of biological and environmental samples
- Data management: initial data cleaning, data set preparation, and data analysis

- Interpretation of results
- Participation in research team meetings
- Dissemination of results via scientific publications, reports, conferences presentations, and thesis dissertation (including at least 3 scientific papers)

All candidates should satisfy INPhINIT eligibility requirements. In addition, the following skills are preferred for the announced position:

- MSc in Epidemiology or Master of Public Health
- Proven ability to work with initiative and discretion
- Proven ability to work in team environment
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Intermediate level of Spanish
- Interest in tobacco control

Group Leader

Dr. Marcela Fu (mfu@iconcologia.net)

Research project/ Research Group website: <https://www.icoprevencio.cat/uct/en/>

Related links to the position (optional)

Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO): <http://ico.gencat.cat/en/inici/index.html>

Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBELL): <http://www.idibell.cat/en>

Health Universitat de Barcelona Campus: <http://hubc.ub.edu/en>

PhD Programme: <http://www.ub.edu/medicina/doctorat/programa-medicina/en/index.htm>

About the EurestPlus project: <https://eurestplus.eu/>