

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER: hybrid Biostatistician/Epidemiologist – Molecular Biologist

The Human Nutrition Unit (HNU) at the Rovira i Virgili University (URV) in Reus, is an interdisciplinary and dynamic team with extensive experience and sufficient autonomy in developing epidemiological studies, clinical trials, and basic research. The scope of this research group is to evaluate the effect of dietary patterns or dietary compounds on obesity, type 2 diabetes (T2D), metabolic syndrome (MetS), cardiovascular diseases (CVD), colorectal cancer and male fertility. We focus on the effect of dietary components and functional foods on energy balance, lipid profile, inflammation, oxidation, and glucose metabolism, as well as on the effect of dietary patterns on the primary prevention of CVD and diabetes.

Our research group is leading a national funded project (PREDIMED-Plus study) aimed to evaluate the effect of an intensive weight loss intervention based on an energy restricted Mediterranean diet, physical activity promotion, and behavioral support on hard cardiovascular events in comparison with a control group receiving usual care, including the recommendation to follow an energy-unrestricted Mediterranean diet without any advice to increase physical activity. The primary endpoint of this trial is a composite of CVD events (cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, and nonfatal stroke), but also we will ascertain other secondary obesity-related endpoints and intermediate risk factors. Omics' techniques are used to analyze predictors of disease (diabetes, cardiovascular disease...), mediation effects of diet on these outcomes and the effect of interventions

We are looking for a motivated, self-driven postdoctoral researcher to join the group. The researcher will be based in the research group led by Prof. Jordi Salas-Salvadó, Distinguished Professor of Nutrition, ICREA-Acadèmia Researcher at Universitat Rovira i Virgili, and internationally recognized researcher.

The position will involve: Conducting statistical analysis in large 'omic' datasets (metabolomics/metagenomics); applying advanced statistical techniques (i.e., machine learning); supervising and coordinating laboratory tasks; supervising and coordinating PhD candidates, and degree/master projects; coordinate other statistical designs of the group; and drafting publications related to scope of the group.

FIELD RESEARCH

- Biostatistics/Bioinformatics
- Nutritional Epidemiology
- Molecular Biology

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE / QUALIFICATIONS

- **Degree** in Biology, Biotechnology, Medicine, Pharmacy, or similar
- **Master's degree** in Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, Computational biology, Deep learning, or similar will be considered
- **PhD** in Biomedicine, Computational biology, or similar
- Demonstrated record of **scientific achievement** in epidemiology and molecular biology
- Experience in statistical analysis and dealing with big data in R, Python, and/or Stata

SPECIFIC DUTIES

- Coordinating 'omics' databases
- Conducting descriptive and predictive statistical analyses
- Conducting advanced statistical models
- Drafting original articles for publication in high impact factor journals
- Disseminate findings at conferences, workshops, scientific journals, and other channels

SKILLS

- Excellent quantitative and programming skills
- Motivated, self-directed researcher capable of setting and meeting deadlines and delivering research outputs
- Strong organization and team-working skills
- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- Good level of English(written and spoken)