



“ISABEL ZENDAL” FELLOWSHIP IN APPLIED VACCINOLOGY

Healthcare Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela, Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago and Biofabri are proud to invite applications for the inaugural Isabel Zandal Fellowship, a breakthrough training opportunity in applied vaccinology and clinical research through a comprehensive 2-year program

Are you a physician passionate about vaccines and clinical research? Would you like to play a key role in the future of vaccine development?

Apply for the Isabel Zandal Fellowship now!

Why are next-generation vaccinologists needed?

Vaccines constitute the most important advance in medicine, but they are only useful if they are used. Their application through public health programs prevents between two and three million deaths each year, and the number has grown further since the COVID pandemic. Demand for medical professionals with adequate training in this area is constantly growing, from both clinical and business perspectives. This training must include all the fundamental and applied aspects of vaccines, but also their clinical development process in all its stages. In addition, continuous and rigorous evaluation of vaccine application in real-life conditions is essential to ensure the safety, effectiveness and impact of their use, but also to define the present and future implementation strategies and guide the development of the next generations of vaccines. Only tailored training in applied vaccinology can cover all necessary angles to achieve the integrated expertise required for a next-generation vaccinologist.

How does the Isabel Zandal Fellowship aim to achieve this?



The Isabel Zendal Fellowship in applied vaccinology aims to fulfill this training need by combining academia, clinical, industry, epidemiology and public health skills training at the highest level. It will offer comprehensive and highly specialized training and qualification for medical professionals in the field of vaccines, and promote the advancement of knowledge in vaccinology in the real world through the synergistic action of teachers, researchers and clinical-care professionals in the health, research and teaching framework of Galicia. This will be achieved by combining five distinct and complementary angles:

- 1 – Clinical and Public Health: the Galician Health Service (SERGAS) through the Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago and the General Directorate of Public Health (Santiago de Compostela)
- 2 – Educational: The University of Santiago de Compostela (USC)
- 3 – Research: the Vaccine Clinical Trial Unit of the Healthcare Research Institute of Santiago (IDIS, Santiago de Compostela)
- 4 – Policy and fieldwork: the Collaborating Center of the World Health Organization in Vaccine Safety of Santiago de Compostela
- 5 – Industry: the biotech company for vaccines Biofabri – Zendal (Porriño, Vigo)

The Isabel Zendal fellow will rotate in the five areas described above, with coordination from the Vaccine Research Unit of the Healthcare Research Institute of Santiago (IDIS) and the Translational Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases section of the Pediatrics Service of the Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago. The fellow will undergo training in all the theoretical and practical aspects of vaccines, covering all phases from the preclinical to the post-commercialization stages, and including both basic research and industrial development processes of vaccines. The fellow will also develop their skills in the comprehensive coordination of clinical trials, from the design and drafting of protocols, to the execution of different clinical tasks such as selection, recruitment, follow-up, laboratory, monitoring, safety control, and report writing. The fellow will also contribute to the advancement of knowledge through the evaluation of clinical-epidemiological data of the application of vaccines in the population through public health programs, with special attention to vaccine safety, effectiveness and impact.

Who will I work with?

The work of this fellowship will be carried in the multi-disciplinary team of professionals of the organizing institutions, under the supervision of Prof. Federico Martín-Torres. This team includes physicians, clinical researchers, bio-statisticians, epidemiologist, research nurses, study coordinators, biotechnicians, among other different profiles of clinicians and researchers. The supervisor, Prof. Federico Martín-Torres, is doctor in pediatrics, vaccinologist and clinical researcher, currently the Head of Pediatrics and Director of Translational Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases (winner of Best Infectious Diseases Unit of Spain 2018, 2019 and 2020) at the Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago (Spain), and Associate Professor in Pediatrics (University of Santiago). He coordinates the Genetics, Vaccines, Infections and Pediatrics Research Group (GENVIP www.genvip.org) of the Healthcare



Research Institute of Santiago (International Zendal Research Award 2019). He currently serves at the European Technical Advisory Group of Experts (ETAGE) of WHO Europe and coordinates the WHO collaborating centre for Vaccine Safety of Santiago de Compostela (Spain).

He has published over 300 articles with a cumulative impact factor > 2000 (JCR2020), 7 books and 130 book chapters. His main research interests are: vaccines, infectious diseases, bronchiolitis, meningococcal disease, pneumococcal disease and heliox. He has been principal investigator in more than 100 phase 1 to 3 vaccine clinical trials and coordinates the Spanish Pediatric Clinical Trials Network (RECLIP – www.reclip.org). He has managed or directed more than 40 competitive research projects and 18 collaborative grants related to infectious diseases and genomics, including 2 FP7 (EUCLIDS and PREPARE), 4 H2020 (PoC-ID, ZIKAction, PERFORM and DIAMONDS) and 3 IMI-2 (RESCEU, C4C and PROMISE) projects. Member of 30+ consultative and expert advisory boards on meningococcal diseases, pneumococcus, RSV (ReSVinet), rotavirus and HPV, and 20+ professional/academic international societies.

Who can apply for this fellowship?

We are looking for a physician with interest and/or training in vaccines and clinical research, willing to become a next-generation vaccinologist

Essential requirements:

- Degree in Medicine
- Fluent written and oral English and Spanish
- Team player with demonstrated ability to multi-task

Desirable requirements:

- Experience in vaccinology
- Experience in clinical research
- Availability to travel as required

What we offer

- Full time job based in Santiago de Compostela
- Remuneration equivalent to that of a physician of the public healthcare system of Spain
- Two years of training (subject to satisfactory performance)
- The fellow will join the GENVIP team at Healthcare Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela and Hospital Clínico Universitario de Santiago, a multi-disciplinary environment with clinicians and researchers spanning multiple sub-specialties
- The fellowship will gain familiarity with all aspects of vaccine clinical research, from regulatory through clinical protocol development, an including all the aspects of clinical trial preparation and deployment. In addition, the fellow will also be exposed to the industry side of vaccine development at the Biofabri – Zendal facilities, and the public health and epidemiology aspects



of implementation and evaluation of vaccines.

- Training will include the following aspects of applied vaccinology
 - o Regulatory and Ethics (2 months)
 - o Public Health (3 months)
 - o High-level management (2 months)
 - o Epidemiology (3 months)
 - o Clinical Trials (6 months)
 - o Manufacturing (4 months)
 - o Intellectual Properties (1 month)
 - o Business, Market and Access (2 months)
- The following external rotations will be part of the training
 - o Public Health facilities
 - o Biofabri – Zandal facilities
 - o International research sites

What next?

If you are interested in this opportunity, please send your CV, personal statement, and two references in English to Belen Mosquera bmosper@gmail.com (reference IZ-FELLOW22). The deadline for applications is **31ST January 2022**. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview.