

Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer Translational Research Group

PhD Fellow Offer

Biliary Tract Cancer | Cholangiocarcinoma | Progression | Patient-Derived Models | Organoids | Xenografts | Omics | High-throughput Screening | Next-generation Therapies | Biomarker Discovery

Who we are?

Situated within the renowned **Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO)**, the **Upper Gastrointestinal (GI) Cancer Translational Research Group** is at the forefront of cutting-edge cancer research. Our multidisciplinary team unites leading clinical oncologists, led by Dr. Teresa Macarulla (MD, PhD), with an innovative preclinical and translational research team, led by Dr. Tian Tian (MD, PhD). With an unwavering commitment to advancing **pancreaticobiliary cancer research**, we aim to bridge the gap between laboratory breakthroughs with patient care. Our recent research results can be found in *Annals of Oncology* (2024 *in press*) *Sci Transl Med* 15;16 (747) (2024) *Clin Cancer Res* 29, 432-445, (2023); *Cell Rep Med* 21;4(11) (2023) *J Clin Oncol* 40, 3929-3939, (2022); *Nat Med* 26, 878-885, (2020); (2020); *Nat Cell Biol* 21, 824-834, (2019);

What is waiting for you?

- ✓ The fellowship offers the chance to work with various **high-throughput techniques** (e.g., RNA-seq, ChIP-seq, ATAC-seq, MeDIP-seq) and utilize patient-derived preclinical models for **drug screening**, both ex vivo and in vivo, to discover **new therapeutic strategies for biliary tract cancer**.
- ✓ Engage in **cutting-edge translational oncology research** at the forefront of the field.
- ✓ Thrive in an **international working environment** that fosters diverse perspectives and **cross-cultural collaboration**.
- ✓ Leverage an **extensive network and valuable contacts (COST Precision-BTC-Network)**, connecting you to leading European researchers.
- ✓ Benefit from **mentorship** provided by seasoned and accomplished researchers, accelerating your professional development.
- ✓ Benefit from a **4-year, fully-funded fellowship** provided by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (FPI fellowship linked to Dr. Tian's national grant).

Who are we searching for?

- ✓ Highly organized, motivated, and team-oriented individuals of any nationality.
- ✓ Candidates must have obtained a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in biomedical sciences, biological science, or biology-related fields (European Education System minimum 300ECTS) by February 2025, allowing them to start a Ph.D. thesis.
- ✓ Outstanding academic record and high proficiency in English
- ✓ Previous experience in molecular and cellular biology
- ✓ Experience in translational research and hands-on work with mice would be a plus.

How to apply?

Interested candidates **must apply through the VHIO International PhD Program**. Applications can be submitted via the following <https://vhio.net/vhio-phd-opportunities-2024-2/>. For any inquiries, please contact Dr. Tian at tiantian@vhio.net. The application deadline is **November 29, 2024**. The selection committee will begin reviewing applications immediately, with short-listed candidates invited for on-site interviews in early February 2025.

