

Call for applications for core members in the NextGen BTC Group (NG BTC)

The Precision-BTC Network invites applications from 3 motivated, enthusiastic, and proactive individuals to join the core group of the NextGen BTC. This is an opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of young investigators and innovators in the field of biliary tract cancer (BTC).

Application period: 25 November – 31 December 2024

About the initiative:

The Precision-BTC Network is dedicated to fostering young talent across research, innovation, and clinical practice. Our goal is to create a collaborative community that supports the growth and development of future leaders in the BTC field. The core NextGen BTC Group will consist of six members, ensuring gender balance and international representation. Three of these members have already been nominated, and we are now welcoming applications to fill the remaining three positions. A rotating chair will be established for efficient leadership sharing.

Role and responsibilities:

- Identifying and addressing the needs of young researchers and innovators in the BTC field, providing recommendations to the Precision-BTC Network coordination.
- Organizing career- and skills-oriented webinars.
- Creating engaging content for social media platforms.
- Driving and managing specific activities within each Working Group (WG).
- Organizing and coordinating young investigator (YI) gatherings during Precision-BTC and other relevant conferences.
- Strengthening networking opportunities for young researchers and innovators.
- Participating in regular Zoom meetings and contributing actively to discussions and initiatives.
- Encourage other YIs to become BTC members and join the Precision-BTC Network.

Benefits for members:

- Opportunities for professional development and skill-building through direct participation in group-led activities and webinars.
- Enhanced networking within an international community of peers and senior professionals in the BTC field.
- Recognition as a proactive leader within the Precision-BTC Network.
- Experience in organizing and leading events, contributing to personal growth and career advancement.

Term:

NG BTC core members will ideally serve for approximately three years, until the conclusion of the COST action CA22125 (October 2027). However, the term is flexible should unforeseen circumstances necessitate the replacement of any member.

Eligibility Criteria:

The candidate must be a member of the Precision-BTC Network COST action at the time of application or express an intention to join.

Candidates should be under 40 years of age as of January 2025 (with a two-year extension per child for primary caregivers).

We are committed to equal opportunities and inclusivity and encourage a diverse pool of applicants. Applicants from all backgrounds are welcome; however, preference will be given to those with experience related to WGs 1, 3, 4, and 5. Clinicians and individuals from stakeholder organizations such as patient associations are especially encouraged to apply.

The group currently includes members from Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom. Applications from other countries, particularly from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs), are strongly encouraged to promote diversity.

Application requirements:

- A letter of motivation outlining your aspirations and reasons for joining the NG BTC core group. (maximum 2 pages).
- An updated CV (maximum of 5 pages).

- A statement confirming, on your word of honor, that your research lab's principal investigator or department head supports your participation and agrees to the outlined role responsibilities.

Review Process:

Applications will be reviewed by the current core NG BTC group members based on motivation, innovative ideas, and relevant experience in similar volunteer roles. Additionally, to ensure balanced representation, each application will be considered with respect to regional and gender diversity and specialization across the BTC field (including basic science, clinicians, and patient-focused organizations). Final selections will require approval by the COST action Management Committee. If a high volume of applications is received, shortlisted candidates may be invited for a brief interview with current NG BTC group members.

We look forward to receiving applications from passionate young investigators and innovators ready to make a meaningful impact in the field of BTC research and community-building.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact samuel.v.kocsis@usal.es, writing in the subject "NG BTC application".