



## One (1) PhD Student Position

[Ref # PAR-0724]

The research group of Genome (In)stability and Mammalian Physiology (<https://www.garinislab.gr/>) under the Hevolution Foundation Geroscience Research Opportunities program (Project ID HF-GRO-23-119921), entitled “Targeting genome stability as root cause of aging” (Program Coordinator Prof. George Garinis) invites applications for one (1) PhD student position.

### About the lab

The Garinis lab investigates the impact of DNA damage on mammalian physiology during aging and its causative role in the premature onset of age-related diseases. We are using genetically engineered mouse models that carry inborn defects in Nucleotide Excision Repair and/or transcription as well as mice that carry tagged versions of proteins involved in DNA repair and/or transcription in combination with high-throughput, biochemical, molecular and cellular biology methods. This approach allows us to understand how mammalian cells exploit their natural defense strategies to counteract DNA damage-driven pathologies and prolong healthspan.

### About the project:

DNA damage constantly occurs and requires a range of DNA repair systems to maintain genome integrity. While the role of impaired DNA repair and DNA damage accumulation in causing age-related diseases have been intensely investigated, improving overall DNA repair capacities have remained elusive. Our recent discovery of the DREAM complex as a master regulator of DNA repair capacities has revealed a mechanism that could enhance overall genome stability. This research program focuses on uncovering the mechanisms of DNA repair gene regulation, exploring the fitness costs of enhanced somatic DNA repair and establishing *in vivo* how augmented DNA repair through DREAM inhibition could extend healthspan in mammals.

### Job Description:

A highly motivated PhD candidate will participate in the project titled “Targeting Genome Stability as the Root Cause of Aging”, focusing on addressing the evolutionary trade-off of somatic DNA repair capacities and on investigating DREAM dysfunction in the DNA damage response in mice. The successful candidate should hold a BSc and MSc in Biology, Medicine, Life Sciences or related fields, and prior documented experience in molecular/cellular biology methods, biochemistry assays, immunological approaches, cell sorting, imaging techniques and mouse genetics. Prior experience in DNA damage and aging research fields will be highly appreciated. Candidates with proven and certified ability to work with laboratory mouse models will be prioritized. Presentation, communication, collaboration, scientific authoring skills are pluses. S(he) should also have at least one high impact publication in scientific journals as author or co-author and fluency in Greek and English (written and oral).

### Required qualifications:

- B.Sc. degree in Biology, Medicine, Life Sciences or related fields
- M.Sc. in Biology or related fields
- Enrolled in a PhD program in a Greek University
- FELASA or equivalent certificate for animal handling
- At least one high impact publication in peer-reviewed scientific journal as author or co-author
- Experience in molecular/cellular biology methods, cell sorting, imaging techniques, immunological approaches, biochemistry assays and mouse genetics
- Excellent oral and written skills in Greek and English

**Desired qualifications:**

- Working experience in DNA damage and aging research fields

	<b>Evaluation criteria</b>	<b>Maximum score</b>
1.	B.Sc. degree grade (Score points = grade x 1)	10
2.	M.Sc. degree grade	Yes/No
3.	Enrolled in a Postgraduate Program leading to a Doctorate Degree from a Greek University	Yes/No
4.	FELASA or equivalent certificate for animal handling	Yes/No
5.	At least one high impact publication in peer-reviewed scientific journal as author or co-author	10
6.	Experience in molecular/cellular biology methods, cell sorting, imaging techniques, immunological approaches, biochemistry assays and mouse genetics (No experience= 0 points, <12 months = 15 points, >12 months = 30 points)	30
7.	Oral and written skills in Greek and English language (B1 = 5 points, B2 = 10 points, C1 = 15 points, C2 = 20 points)	20
8.	Interview where they will be evaluated: (a) Experience and knowledge background in relevant experimental studies and techniques, in DNA damage and aging research fields (10 credits) (b) organizational and communication skills (10 points) (c) spirit of cooperation, initiative and self-motivation (10 points)	30
<b>Total score</b>		<b>100</b>

**Contract Duration:** 9 months with the possibility of extension according to the project needs

**Total budget:** in accordance with the salary conditions of Law. 4354/2015

**Envisaged starting date:** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

**Application submission:** Interested applicants should submit their application electronically by **February 20, 2025 @ 13:00 (Greece time)**

**The application should consist of:**

1. Application Form (see below)
2. CV
3. The names and contact details of two referees
4. Scanned copies of academic titles
5. Scanned copies proving the qualifications
6. Proof of enrollment in a PhD Program

**Submission of applications:** [par0724@imbb.forth.gr](mailto:par0724@imbb.forth.gr)

**Evaluation procedure**

Applications will be evaluated by a three-member evaluation committee. In case of interview procedure, applicants will be invited to participate in person or teleconference.

In case of titles and qualifications awarded by foreign Higher Education Institutions, the provisions of the Law 55/2023 (article 36) and 4957/2022 (article 304) are implemented.

The results of the selection will be announced on the website of IMBB-FORTH. Applicants have the right to appeal the selection decision, by addressing their written objection to the IMBB secretariat within five days since the results announcement on the web. Objections are submitted in one of the following ways: in person, by an authorized person, by post, by courier. They also have the right to access (a) the files of the applicants as well as (b) the table of applicants' scores (ranking of applicants results). All the above information related to the selection procedure will be available at the secretariat of IMBB-FORTH in line with the Hellenic Data Protection Authority. Access to personal data of co- applicants shall be limited to personal data (and relevant data) and supporting documents which have been the basis of the evaluation of the applicants for the specific post(s). Prior to the announcement of the personal data and/or documents of the co- applicants to the applicant, FORTH will inform the data subjects in an appropriate way.

The selected applicants will be notified personally regarding the success of his/her application and will be requested to submit certified copies of his/her degrees. If the submitted documents do not agree with the original application, the applicant will be dismissed.

### **GDPR Disclaimer**

FORTH is compliant with all legal procedures for the processing of personal data as defined by the Regulation EU/2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data. FORTH processes the personal data and relevant supporting documents that applicants have submitted. Processing of that data is carried out exclusively for the needs and purposes of this specific call. Such data shall not be transmitted to or communicated to any third party unless required by law.

FORTH retains the above data up to the announcement of the final results of the call, unless further process and reservation is required by law or for purposes of exercise, enforcement, prosecution of certain one's legitimate legal rights' as defined in the Regulation EU/2016/679 and/or in national law. Under the Regulation EU/2016/679, applicants have the rights to be informed about their personal data, access to, rectification and erasure, restrictions of process and objection to as provided by applicable regulation and national laws. Applicants have the right to file a complaint to the national Data Protection Authority. For any further information regarding exercise of personal data protection rights, applicants may contact the Data Protection Officer at FORTH at [dpo@admin.forth.gr](mailto:dpo@admin.forth.gr).

Applicants have the right to withdraw their application and consent for the processing of personal data at any time. In this case, FORTH shall destroy such documents and/or supporting documents submitted and shall delete the related personal data.

**APPLICATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

TO  
**FOUNDATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (FORTH)**  
**INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

Hereby I submit my application for the position:

In the framework of the project: \_\_\_\_\_

Position code [Ref #] \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted with this application:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that:

- A) I accept the terms and conditions of the job announcement
- B) I possess all the necessary certificates and documents and I can present them in their original form to the committee without any delay if I am asked to do so
- C) I am able to complete the project within the foreseen time -frame
- D) all the information given in the framework of this application are accurate and true.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant name

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)