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## 2017 PhD4MD Programme is launched to bring research closer to clinical practice

- **Research centres of excellence in Barcelona offer PhD fellowships to medical doctors.**
- **Called PhD4MD, the programme allows medical doctors to carry out a three-year doctoral thesis on cancer, rare disease or neurodegenerative conditions.**

The Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), the *Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas August Pi i Sunyer* (IDIBAPS), the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona) and the *Vall d'Hebron Instituto de Investigación* (VHIR) launch the third year of the training programme “*PhD for Medical Doctors – PhD4MD*”.

The first initiative of its kind in Spain, this programme allows medical doctors to gain advanced research training. The aim is to bring basic research and clinical practice closer, thus speeding up the transfer of lab results to the bedside.

### Translational research

This year the programme is offering five three-year fellowships for medical doctors who have completed their residency or who will complete it before 31 October 2017. Participants in this initiative will be able to choose from a range of collaborative projects underway between, on the one hand, CRG, CNAG-CRG, and IRB Barcelona—all internally recognised centres devoted to the life sciences—and, on the other, IDIBAPS or VHIR—leading centres in translational research that are linked to the *Hospital Clínico* and *Hospital Universitario Vall d'Hebron*, respectively.

The principal investigators of the research centres have explored potential collaboration projects between basic and applied research groups. In this regard, several interdisciplinary projects are included in this call and include, among others, the identification of new biomarkers and therapeutic targets for rare diseases and neurodegenerative conditions and genomics approaches to study and treat various kinds of cancer.

The call opens today (Friday 17 February) and ends on 31 March. Applications from medical doctors with degrees from member states of the European Union who can provide proof of completion of an equivalent residency are also eligible.

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### More information about the PhD4MD Programme and the centres involved:

Web PhD4MD: <http://www.phd4md.eu/>

Centro de Regulación Genómica (CRG): [www.crg.eu](http://www.crg.eu)

Instituto de Investigación Biomédica (IRB Barcelona): [www.irbbarcelona.org](http://www.irbbarcelona.org)

Vall d'Hebron Instituto de Investigación (VHIR): [www.vhir.org](http://www.vhir.org)

Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas August Pi i Sunyer (IDIBAPS):

<http://www.idibaps.org>

Centro Nacional de Análisis Genómico (CNAG-CRG): <http://www.cnag.crg.eu>

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