Postdoctoral Fellowship
Drug efficacy models for Chagas disease

School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of São Paulo
São Paulo, Brazil

We are seeking a highly motivated individual for a translational research postdoctoral project in drug discovery for Chagas disease, a neglected tropical disease endemic to the Americas and for which there are no satisfactory drug treatment or vaccine options. The selected researcher will develop the project at the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the University of São Paulo (FCF/USP) in the group of Prof. Carolina Borsoi Moraes, as part of the Embrapii Unit Center for Innovation on Pharmaceuticals (CEINFAR-USP). The University of São Paulo is a leading research and teaching institution in Latin America and the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has a world-class team of professors and researchers working on the basic and applied research in human health.

The project consists of applying *in vivo* bioluminescence imaging in mouse models for Chagas disease drug efficacy studies. This project is a key part of a multidisciplinary drug discovery consortium is developed in partnership with the Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi) and a Brazilian Pharmaceutical company. The selected candidate is expected to play a leading role, working closely with other scientists from medicinal chemistry and pharmacology teams from both Academia and Industry, actively contributing to project progress.

Key project tasks:

- Conduct *in vivo* drug efficacy studies using the bioluminescence imaging in mouse models for Chagas disease.
- Explore novel lead compounds and preclinical candidates *in vivo*, alongside the development of combination therapeutic schemes.
- Conduct *Trypanosoma cruzi* and mammalian cell lines culture in a biosafety level 2 laboratory, as well as High Content Screening assays, to support project goals.
- Plan and execute experiments, data analysis, reporting and presentation.
- Assist in project management and supervision of junior personnel.

Candidate Requirements:

- PhD in biomedical, pharmaceutical, veterinary or related sciences.
- Experience in animal models and laboratory animal handling.
- Fluency in English.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Flexibility and adaptability to work within a multidisciplinary team and meet project's demands and goals.
- Outstanding organizational competencies and meticulous record-keeping abilities.
- Prior experience in parasitology, infectious diseases animal models, and/or in vivo bioluminescence imaging is advantageous.

The selected candidate is expected to commence the position by March 2024, receiving a monthly fellowship for 12 months, with the potential for renewal for up to another 24 months. Fellowship values are competitive and commensurate with experience.

Candidates should submit their curriculum vitae (max. 4 pages), a letter of motivation explaining why they believe they are the ideal candidate for this opportunity (max. 1 page) and contact of at least two professional references (name, affiliation and contact information) for Carolina B. Moraes (cbmoraes@usp.br) until 29th February, 2024.