Postdoctoral position in Neuroscience  
Universitat de Barcelona  
Vestibular Loss and Spatial Orientation

We are recruiting a PostDoc to work on the role of the vestibular system in spatial orientation using rodent models. The successful candidate will join the vestibular lab, Cellular & Molecular Basis of Sensory Disorders group, to work on this topic within the ERA-NET Neuron VELOSO project (NEURON-ERANET: Funded projects).

**Candidates should have:**
* Ph.D. in Neuroscience. * Experience in rodent behavior. * Certification for animal experimentation. * At least some additional relevant skills (immunofluorescence and confocal microscopy, scanning and transmission electron microscopy, in-situ hybridization, gene expression analysis, others). * Complementary and soft skills: good English, communicative skills, team working, research ethic and responsibility, others.

**Project:**
Loss of vestibular function degrades both the perception of orientation in space and the capacity to navigate even in familiar visual environments. The VELOSO network hypothesizes that vestibular deficits prevent the brain from binding visual landmarks to particular orientations. In our laboratory, the recruited candidate will generate rats with graded lesions in the vestibular sensory epithelia and assess their spatial orientation capacity to establish the relationship between vestibular loss and loss of navigation abilities. She/he is expected to lead the design, plan and execution of the animal behavior and histological assessment studies. The PostDoc will also collaborate with the other groups in the VELOSO Network and will be allowed to collaborate in other projects running in the laboratory.

**We offer:**
Contract for 3 years. Gross salary of about €20,000. The host laboratory is located at the Departament de Ciències Fisiològiques, Universitat de Barcelona (Campus Bellvitge), offering good work ambience and dynamic scientific environment. It belongs to the Institute of Neuroscience of the UB (http://www.neurociencies.ub.edu/) and the neuroscience program of the IDIBELL institute (https://idibell.cat/recerca/area-de-neurociencies/programa-de-neurociencies/).

**To apply:**
A formal call will be published by the University of Barcelona. Meanwhile, interested individuals are invited to send full C.V., short letter of interest and generic letters of reference, if available, to Jordi Llorens, e-mail: jlllorens@ub.edu.

**Representative recent work of the laboratory:**
- Maroto AF, Barrallo-Gimeno A, Llorens J. Relationship between vestibular hair cell loss and deficits in two anti-gravity reflexes in the rat. PRE-PRINT BIORXIV/2020/423804.
- Greguske EA, Carreres-Pons M, Cutillas B, Boadas-Vaello P, Llorens J. Calyx junction dismantlement and synaptic uncoupling precede hair cell extrusion in the vestibular sensory epithelium during sub-chronic 3,3'-iminodipropionitrile ototoxicity in the mouse. *Archives of Toxicology* 93: 417-434 (2019)

**Recent publications of the VELOSO partners related to the project:**