

A full-time post-doctoral position for a young, enthusiastic scientist is available for up to three years in the Laboratory of CNS Repair, at the Institute of Experimental neurology (INSPE), DIBIT2, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan, Italy, starting September 2010 or shortly after. Research in our lab focuses on the development of novel somatic stem cell-based therapeutics for the treatment of complex neurological disorders, such as multiple sclerosis and spinal cord injuries. This project is co-funded by **Wings for Life** (<http://www.wingsforlife.com>) and the **Italian Ministry of Health** (Young Investigator Award; www.salute.gov.it) and aims at investigating the cellular and molecular mechanisms regulating the therapeutic plasticity of transplanted NPCs in mice suffering from thoracic contusion spinal cord injury. Special efforts will be devoted to the understanding of the different horizontal cell-to-cell communication programmes between transplanted NPCs and spinal cord-resident inflammatory cells (eg monocytes/macrophages and microglia) by tissue pathology, molecular biology and 2-photon in vivo live imaging (in collaboration with Gabriela Constantin, MD, PhD, University of Verona, Italy). The laboratory is strategically located within the scientific environment of the INSPE, within the San Raffaele Biomedical Area. There are ample opportunities to interact with other laboratories with interests in regenerative medicine and stem cells. The Division of Neuroscience has a strong emphasis on development of novel stem cell- and gene therapy-based therapeutic approaches for neurological disorders.

Qualifications

Candidates with a PhD in Experimental Neuroscience/Regenerative Medicine as well as previous experience in animal handling, histology and/or in vivo imaging are strongly encouraged to apply. Prior experience with experimental SCI is highly desirable. The successful candidate should be highly motivated, display initiative and independence, and have good verbal and written English communication skills. Flexibility, strong motivation towards interdisciplinary research and the ability to work independently are essential.

Interested candidates should send enquiries, a statement of interest, a CV with information about education and experience and a list of at least three previous mentors and/or qualified scientists that can serve as reference by e-mail to:

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