Call for proposals - Postdocs

Young talent program 2021

DCVA Heart-Brain Connection crossroads (HBCx)

Call open: June 14th – August 23rd 2021



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# Introduction and criteria

This is the postdoc call for HBCx. The aim of this call is to stimulate the work of upcoming researchers in the HBCx concept and to develop junior to senior roles within the HBCx consortium.

## Criteria

* This DCVA HBCx call is open for applications from postdocs and PhD-students that work in the heart-brain connection field.
	+ **Postdocs** can apply when max. 5 years after obtaining the doctoral degree. For extension with regard to pregnancy or medical specialist education, we follow the [guidelines of NWO](https://www.nwo.nl/extensieregeling).
	+ **PhD students** can apply when they are in the final year, meaning that the final contract period of the PhD project ends within 12 months. A set date for the PhD defense is not necessary.
	+ We evaluate eligibility counting from the final submission date: **August 23rd 2021**
* Applicants can work for the HBCx consortium or other research groups, in The Netherlands or abroad.
* Applicants may submit one proposal.
* Your proposal should strengthen the HBCx consortium, meaning that the proposal should fall within the themes of HBCx. For a summary of HBCx see addendum I.
* Your proposal should test a novel hypothesis, and/or include collecting new data, and/or propose a new analysis, which is not part of the already funded work in HBCx. Thus, it should be different than the work mentioned in addendum I.
* The board of HBCx has identified topics/themes in which they intend to further strengthen the consortium. Therefore, bonus-points are allocated for four items, see Scoring - Part 2.
* You should be able to finish the data-collection and/or analysis of data within 24 months. Reporting on the findings may take longer.
* Applicants should ask one of the HBCx principal investigators (PI) as a mentor of the project. A statement of support should be submitted with your proposal. HBCx PI’s can be mentor of one applicant. HBCx PI’s select the candidate that they would like to mentor among the candidates that applied for mentorship with them. See for an overview of HBCx principal investigators addendum II. For external candidates: you can approach one of the PI’s by sending an email to info@heart-institute.nl. We will forward your application to the PI.

## Scoring

The scoring consists of two parts:

**Part 1:**

* The expertise of the applicant; 25% of score of part 1; see Form 3.
* The quality of the research proposal; 25% of score of part 1; see Form 2.
* Added value for the HBCx consortium; 25% of score of part 1; see Form 2.
* Knowledge exchange, impact, towards the future; 15% of score of part 1; see Form 2.
* Suitability of the host institute; 10% of score of part 1, see Form 3.

Each domain is scored with: 1=poor, 2=average, 3=good, 4=very good, 5=excellent

Part 1 is reviewed by two independent reviewers. Scores are calculated as follows:

For reviewer 1 and 2: Σ (subscore (1-5)\* weight (%))

Score part 1: (Score of reviewer 1 + score of reviewer 2) / 10 \* 8

Part 1: maximum of 8 points

**Part 2:** 0.5 point per item, for applications that strengthen the consortium on these 4 points:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Scoring** | **Where in proposal** |
| 1. The proposal strengthens the cardiac perspective within HBCx. | 0.5 point. Scored by two independent reviewers | Should be evident from the proposal. |
| 2. The proposal involves implementation of the HBCx concept in clinical practice.  | 0.5 point. Scored by two independent reviewers: | Should be evident from the proposal. |
| 3. The proposal strengthens the cohesion within the consortium (i.e. involve collaboration with multiple consortium partners). | 0.5 point. Checked by project manager | Form 2, point 8 |
| 4. The proposal is submitted by an applicant who has already been actively involved in the HBCx consortium as a junior scientist (as proven by at least 1 first author paper of the HBCx consortium, or having contributed extensively to the measurements of HBC1 data). | 0.5 point.Checked by project manager | Form 1, final point. |

Items 1 and 2: scored by two independent reviewers.

Score for reviewer 1 and 2: Σ (subscore)

Score items 1 and 2: Σ (Score of reviewer 1 + score of reviewer 2) / 2

Items 3 and 4: checked by project manager.

Score items 3 and 4: Σ (subscore)

Score Part 2: Σ (score items 1-2 + score items 3+4)

Part 2: maximum of 2 points

**Total score proposal** (maximum 10 points): Score part 1 + score part 2

## Budget and start date

You can request a contribution of HBCx to your proposal of maximum 100.000 Euro. Budget can be spend on salary and/or material/analysis/measurement costs. One project will be awarded within this call. The budget will be transferred to the awarded candidates in 2021 and 2022 and should be spend before 01-12-2024.

## Proposal template

You find a template for your proposal on the next pages. Proposals should be written in English. You are not allowed to change margins, font-sizes or line spacing. You may delete all instructions. Proposals should contain the hypothesis, working plan, how they support the HBCx aims and a budget. Please also add details and CV of yourself and your supervisor using the formats below.

## Process and deadline

The deadline for submission is Monday August 23rd 2021 23:59h (Amsterdam time). Please send the form in word and PDF to info@heart-institute.nl.

Annemarie Scholman and Astrid Hooghiemstra will assess eligibility of proposals and applicants upon submission. The evaluation and ranking of the projects will be performed by the International Advisory Board of DCVA HBCx. The expected date for communicating the results is November 2021.

 **For questions about this call and the proposal template, please contact:** Astrid Hooghiemstra, PhD, scientific project manager of HBCx, a.hooghiemstra@amsterdamumc.nl.

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| **Form 1:** Details of applicant, supervisor, HBCx mentor, and project members |
| Name applicant |  |
| Affiliation applicant |  |
| Position applicant (PhD student, Postdoc, …) |  |
| Date of (planned) PhD defense | *For postdocs For PhD students, only if the date has been planned.*  |
| End date of final contract period PhD project | *For PhD students* |
| Contact details of the institution of the applicant* Address
* Phone
* E-mail
 |  |
| Supervising Principle Investigator in your institute | *Your supervisor may be the same person as the HBCx Principal Investigator that will mentor your project* |
| Project members (max. 4) |  |
| HBCx Principal Investigator mentoring the project | *The HBCx Principal Investigator mentoring the project may be the same person as your supervisor*  |
| How were you previously involved in the Heart-Brain Connection consortium?  | *List HBC publications and other relevant work for HBC.* *Relevant for scoring of part 2, item 4.* |

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| **Form 2:** Proposal*Instruction: Use this template, answer all questions, the proposal should fit on maximum 3 pages, use font Calibri 11 points, don’t change the margins, you can delete the instructions (italic text).**Scoring: see below which items are relevant for which scores.* |
| 1. **Title of the project**
 |
|  |
| 1. **Research field** (clinical, pre-clinical, …)
 |
|  |
| 1. **Short description of project** Scoring: 25% of score Part I, and relevant for item 1 and 2 of Part 2
 |
| *The description should be brief and inspiring. The goal of the project should be innovative and feasible within the given timeframe and the provided budget. Describe the goal as specific as possible. Give a clear indication of the step-by-step plan and the intended results over time. If relevant, describe how your project strengthens the cardiac perspective of HBCx and / or how your project contributes to implementation of the HBCx concept in clinical practice.*  |
| 1. **Added value for the HBCx consortium** Scoring: 25% of score Part I
 |
| *Describe how your project contributes to the HBCx consortium. There should be a strong link with the central hypothesis:* ***hemodynamic changes are an important and potentially reversible cause of vascular cognitive impairment.*** *See Addendum I for an overview of the study.*  |
| 1. **Knowledge exchange and impact**

Scoring: field 5 and 6 combined are 15% of score Part I  |
| *Describe the relevance of the results and/or new insights generated by the proposed research to problems in to the cardio- / cerebro vascular field, include how your project will help to solve them. Will there be impact on clinical care (in the long term)? Will your project contribute to other current economic, societal, cultural, policy‐related or technological problems?* |
| 1. **Towards the future**

Scoring: field 5 and 6 combined are 15% of score Part I |
| *Towards the future: How does your project contribute to the long term ambitions of HBCx (see Addendum I)? How do you see your role in the consortium in the years to come?*  |
| 1. **Is the use of data, images or samples from HBC1 and/or HBCx foreseen?**
 |
| *Please specify if and what data is needed from HBC1 or HBCx to perform the study*  |
| 1. **Which HBCx consortium partners are involved in the project?**

Scoring: Relevant for item 3 of Part 2 |
| *Please describe if you are going to participate with HBC consortium partners, and if so, which and how?* |
| 1. **Financial planning**
 |
| *You can apply for a HBCx grant of max. 100.000 euro. Justify the need for both personnel credits requested and the necessary materials and/or traveling costs.**DCVA-HBCx Salary tariffs per year, full time**Postdoc (scale 10:4) € 65.426,48**Medical PhD-student € 59.658,50**Phd-student / OiO € 46.573,20**Research assistant (scale 7:4)\* € 55.607,85**\*Dependent on the experience of the research assistant*  |
| **TOTAL requested** |  |
| Costs |  |
| Personnel |  |
| Materials #1 |  |
| Materials #2 |  |
| Travel  |  |

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| **Form 3:** CV Applicant & supervising PI *Curriculum Vitae**Provide the following information of the applicant and the principal investigator that supervises the project in your institute. The CV of the HBCx mentor and other team members are not necessary. Follow this complete format for both persons on maximum 1 A4 per CV.**Scoring: Part 1: Expertise of applicant 25%, and Suitability of the host institute 10%.* |
| Name |  |
| Date of birth |  |
| Education/training |  |
| **A. Positions and honours** |
| 1. *Positions and Employment*
2. *Other Experience and Professional Memberships*
3. *Honours and awards*
 |
| **B. Publications**  |
| 1. *Number of publications: 1) total, 2) as first author and 3) as second last and last author*
2. *Best selected peer-reviewed scientific publications, relevant for this proposal*
3. *Best selected non-scientific publications, e.g. policy documents, guidelines or newspaper articles etc.*
 |
| **C. Research support** (grants, and other) |
| 1. *Ongoing Research Support*
2. *Completed Research Support*
 |
| **D. Activities on knowledge management** (translation of results for the public, participation of patients in the research, etc.) |
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