

Proposal Evaluation Form



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

7 th Framework Programme for Research

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Call : FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF
Funding scheme : MC-IEF (Intra-European Fellowships (IEF))
Proposal number : 326812
Proposal acronym : leukoselectin
Duration (months) : 24
Proposal title : Tailoring the tail of L-selectin

N.	Proposer name	Country	Type	Total cost (€)	%	Grant requested (€)	%
1	MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER DE WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V.						
Total :							

Abstract :

Leukocytes protect humans from pathogens. During episodes of infection, leukocytes leave the blood circulation and migrate to sites in the body where they mount a response against pathogens. In order for leukocytes to migrate, they must adhere to endothelial cells which cover blood vessels. Such adhesion allows them to migrate along the endothelial layer, pass through endothelial junctions, and reach tissues. Excessive migration of leukocytes is a characteristic of inflammatory and auto-immune diseases, and leads to tissue damage as leukocytes have destructive capacities. L-selectin is an adhesion receptor expressed in leukocytes. This receptor plays a critical role in the adhesion of leukocytes to endothelial cells. Interaction of proteins with the cytoplasmic tail of L-selectin controls the functions of L-selectin. As L-selectin tail contains only one serine residue at position 364, it was proposed but not proven that such phosphorylation may be essential for the recruitment of proteins to L-selectin tail and regulation of L-selectin functions. By using sophisticated proteomics, and by generating mice harbouring nonphosphorylatable serine-to-alanine knock-in substitution at position 364 of the L-selectin tail, we will get insights into the mechanisms by which L-selectin functions are regulated. Our objectives are:

- 1- To identify new proteins interacting with L-selectin tail and identify which one are important for L-selectin functions
 - 2- To investigate whether serine phosphorylation of L-selectin tail regulates interaction with binding partners and L-selectin functions in vitro
 - 3- To investigate whether leukocytes from L-selectin tail serine-to-alanine knock-in mice exhibit impaired adhesion and migration in vivo
- Identification of new proteins binding to L-selectin tail and understanding the mechanisms controlling this interaction is essential for the design of new therapeutic strategies for the treatment of inflammatory and auto-immune diseases.

Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)

SCORING

Scores must be in the range 0-5. Decimal marks may be given.

Interpretation of the score:

- 0- The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.
- 1- Poor. The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2- Fair. While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses.
- 3- Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, although improvements would be necessary.
- 4- Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are still possible.
- 5- Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

Criterion 1. S&T QUALITY (award)

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

- Research/technological quality, including any interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary aspects of the proposal
- Appropriateness of research methodology and approach
- Originality and innovative nature of the project, and relationship to the 'state of the art' of research in the field
- Timeliness and relevance of the project
- Host research expertise in the field
- Quality of the group/scientist in charge

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Weaknesses of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Overall comments:

(reflecting the relative importance of the strengths and weaknesses above mentioned)

(copy the text above in the comment box)

Strengths of the proposal:

- Very good research objectives are clearly articulated and justified against the state-of-the-art.
- The scientific rationale for carrying out the further research in the field is convincingly explained.
- The proposed project is timely and multidisciplinary both scientifically and methodologically.
- The methodology employs advanced and appropriate approaches.
- The host institute and the supervisor are very good.

Weaknesses of the proposal:

- Some methodology is not described in sufficient detail.

Overall score (Threshold: 3.00/5.00, Weight: 0.25) **4.60**

Criterion 2. TRAINING (award)

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

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- Clarity and quality of the research training objectives for the researcher
- Relevance and quality of additional research training as well as of transferable skills offered, with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate.*
- Measures taken by the host for providing quantitative and qualitative mentoring/tutoring

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Weaknesses of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Overall comments:

(reflecting the relative importance of the strengths and weaknesses above mentioned)

(copy the text above in the comment box)

Strengths of the proposal:

- *The research training objectives are very good and relevant to the applicant's needs.*
- *The new and diverse skills to be acquired would substantially promote the applicant's professional maturation.*
- *The project management opportunities arising from this multidisciplinary project would significantly benefit the applicant's future career.*
- *Some complementary training objectives are also very good.*

Weaknesses of the proposal:

- *The host's track record of successful training and its impact on subsequent careers is not described in sufficient detail.*

Overall score (Threshold: 3.00/5.00, Weight: 0.15) **4.50**

Criterion 3. RESEARCHER (award)

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

- Research experience**
- Research results including patents, publications, teaching etc, taking into account the level of experience
- Independent thinking and leadership qualities
- Match between the fellow's profile and project
- Potential for reaching or re-enforcing a position of professional maturity*
- Potential to acquire new knowledge

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Weaknesses of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Overall comments:

(reflecting the relative importance of the strengths and weaknesses above mentioned)

(copy the text above in the comment box)

Strengths of the proposal:

- *The applicant's skill set will be substantially extended, promoting their career development.*
- *The applicant's previous accomplishments indicate very good initiative and capacity of independent thinking, cooperation, project management and leadership, and capacity to acquire new knowledge.*
- *The applicant's profile is a very good match with the proposed project.*
- *The applicant's considerable teaching and supervision experience further support the success of this fellowship.*

Weaknesses of the proposal:

- *The applicant's career development plan is not presented in a coherent form.*

Overall score (Threshold: 4.00/5.00, Weight: 0.25) **4.50**

Criterion 4. IMPLEMENTATION (selection)

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

- Quality of infrastructure / facilities and International collaborations of host
- Practical arrangements for the implementation and management of the research project*
- Feasibility and credibility of the project, including work plan
- Practical and administrative arrangements, and support for the hosting of the fellow*

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Weaknesses of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Overall comments:

(reflecting the relative importance of the strengths and weaknesses above mentioned)

(copy the text above in the comment box)

Strengths of the proposal:

- *The host institution has a very good infrastructure, equipment and expertise supporting the implementation of the proposed research.*
- *The host institution provides comprehensive administration of the proposed fellowship and very good support for the fellow's hosting.*
- *The comprehensive work plan supports the credibility and feasibility of the proposed project.*

Weaknesses of the proposal:

- *The feasibility of the knock-in mouse model within the context of the project is not adequately explained.*
- *A contingency plan is not adequately described*

Overall score **4.40**

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Criterion 5. IMPACT (award)

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

- Impact of competencies acquired during the fellowship on the future career prospects of the researcher, in particular through exposure to transferable skills training with special attention to exposure to the industry sector, where appropriate*
- Contribution to career development or re-establishment where relevant*
- Benefit of the mobility to the European Research Area
- Development of lasting cooperation and collaborations with other countries
- Contribution to European excellence and European competitiveness regarding the expected research results
- Impact of the proposed outreach activities*

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Weaknesses of the proposal (bullet point structure):
- Overall comments:
(reflecting the relative importance of the strengths and weaknesses above mentioned)
(copy the text above in the comment box)

Strengths of the proposal:

- *The proposed fellowship would significantly promote the applicant's competency and career advancement.*
- *The genuine mobility associated with the proposed fellowship would be very beneficial to the applicant and the European Research Area.*
- *There's very high potential for mutually beneficial international collaboration.*
- *The outreach plan is very good.*

Weaknesses of the proposal:

- *No major weaknesses seen.*

Overall score (Threshold: 3.50/5.00, Weight: 0.20) **4.70**

***Sub-criteria to be evaluated in the light of the principles of the 'European Charter for Researchers' and the 'Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers'.**

****Any leave of absence in the research career of more than one year such as maternity/parental leave, sick or family care leave, military service, humanitarian aid work, etc. will be taken into account.**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEGOTIATION AND/OR INDICATORS TO MONITOR PROGRESS OF PROJECT:

TOTAL SCORE

Total score (Threshold: 70.00/100.00, Weight: 1.00) **91.00**

Does this proposal raise ethical issues?

Yes

Other Issues

Do you believe that the applicant has more than ten years of research experience?

Yes