

## PhD candidate in RNA-biology and Neurodegeneration

The **NeuroRNA team** at Biogipuzkoa Health research institute is looking for a **PhD student** to join a research project focused on RNA biology and Neurodegeneration. The group is focused on understanding the molecular basis of neurological diseases to develop novel diagnostic and personalized therapeutic strategies.

The project will be cosupervised by **Lorea Blázquez**, Ikerbasque Research Associate Professor at Biogipuzkoa, and **Jone López-Erauskin**, Assistant Project Scientist in Don Cleveland's lab in the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). The candidate is expected to perform a 12- to 24-month internship at UCSD during the PhD.

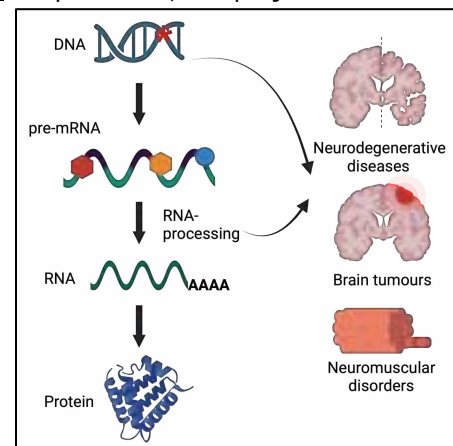
Applications are welcome from **graduate students with a finished or ongoing MSc degree in Biological Sciences or Biomedicine**.

**The project will involve a battery of molecular and cell biology techniques (gene-editing, patient-derived cell lines, antisense oligonucleotides, AAVs, Lentivirus, etc.), high-throughput DNA and RNA sequencing (Illumina and Nanopore), Spatial transcriptomics and bioinformatics. In particular, the project will:**

- Characterize widespread RNA-misprocessing in Frontotemporal dementia (FTD) due to GRN mutations
- Participate in spatial transcriptomics analysis in FTD postmortem brain tissue
- Explore RNA-targeting genetic therapies in FTD patients

More information about the group and ongoing research lines can be found at [www.neurornalab.com](http://www.neurornalab.com) and (<https://cmm.ucsd.edu/research/labs/don-cleveland/index.html>)

The NeuroRNA team is part of the Neurosciences area of **Biogipuzkoa Health Research Institute** (<http://www.biogipuzkoa.eus/>) in **San Sebastian, Spain**. Biogipuzkoa HRI is a national and international centre of reference in the field of health research, giving priority to promoting translational research. The institute is arranged in 7 subject areas and brings together around 350 researchers.



**Lopez-Erauskin's lab** is at University of California San Diego and comingled into Don Cleveland's and Bogdan Bintu's labs at the Cellular and Molecular Medicine Department in La Jolla, California. In a highly enriching scientific environment, the department tackles basic and translational research.

### Requirements

- Applications are welcome from **dynamic and highly motivated candidates to pursue an international PhD thesis**. Independence and leadership will be positively evaluated.
- Good communication and writing skills in English are required.
- Having previous experience in molecular biology and a good academic record in the BSc degree will be positively evaluated.

**Envisaged Job Starting Date:** October 2026

**Application deadline:** 31-07-2026

**How to apply:** Interested applicants are welcome to discuss their interests and work conditions. For job application, a CV, contact information for 2-3 references, and a motivation letter describing experience and research interests should be sent to [lorea.blazquezgarcia@bio-gipuzkoa.eus](mailto:lorea.blazquezgarcia@bio-gipuzkoa.eus) and [jerauskin@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:jerauskin@health.ucsd.edu)

