# Position Details

## CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Postdoctoral Fellowship– CSOF4

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellowship in PET Neuroimaging for Alzheimer's Disease |
| Job Reference | 79371 |
| Tenure | Specified Term of 3 years  Full-time |
| Salary Range | AU$89,926 to AU$98,504 pa + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Melbourne, VIC |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | All Candidates |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 60% |
| Client Focus – External | 40% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Vincent Dore via email at vincent.dore@csiro.au or phone +61 4 2626 6807 |
| How to apply | Apply online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/>  Internal applicants please apply via **Jobs Central**  If you experience difficulties when applying, please email [careers.online@csiro.au](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au) or call 1300 984 220. |

**Acknowledgement of Country**

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the area that we live and work on across Australia. We acknowledge their continuing connection to their culture and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. View our [vision towards reconciliation](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/Indigenous-engagement/Reconciliation-Action-Plan).

### Role Overview

**CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Fellowships** provide opportunities to scientists and engineers who have completed their doctorate and have less than three years relevant research experience. These Fellowships aim to develop the next generation of future leaders of the innovation system through:

* A differentiated career development program to deliver capability excellence and breadth across all facets of the national innovation system;
* Research training via strategic research and development projects with a clear focus that will deliver real impact through science and engineering excellence;
* An innovative culture supporting the development and demonstration of original thinking and expertise leading to peer-recognition; and
* Opportunities to develop skills and experience in collaborative research teams to effectively work within national and global multi/transdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder environments.

CERC Fellows **are appointed for three years or part time equivalent.**

The CERC Fellow will conduct research in imaging neuroinflammation using positron emission tomography (PET). They will be expected to take an active role in developing and applying advance imaging method to quantify the amount of neuroinflammation, globally and locally and then combine the data with other biomarkers. The project aims at collecting clinical data and will also have access to existing data from some of the largest and world leading clinical studies, such as the Australian Imaging Biomarkers and Lifestyle study of ageing (more than 2000 individuals followed up for more than 10 years) and as the Australian Dementia Network (ADNeT). There are great opportunities to initiate individual research projects based on the person’s interests. The fellow will be working at CSIRO site and at Austin Hospital in Professor Christopher Rowe’s lab.

This successful candidate will join an international task force, that has recently been gathered with the aim of developing a robust understanding of the risk and prospective factors which increase or delay the pathological processes of Alzheimer’s disease. To this aim, the Postdoctoral Fellow will be fully embedding into a clinical team in the department of Nuclear Medicine at Austin Hospital, Heidelberg (VIC) to work in close collaboration with clinicians. In CSIRO, the fellow will work with a large team of scientists and students (20+) benefiting from existing software platform. The CSIRO Health and Biosecurity provide an outstanding environment with strong capability in medical image analysis.

### Duties and Key Result Areas:

Under the direction of senior research scientists and engineers, CERC Fellows:

* + Assist in developing and conducting research projects, including experiment design, experiment execution, data analysis and documentation of experiment results.
  + Work in close collaboration with clinical partners; attend clinical meetings, help solving clinical and practical problems, present and discuss results with clinicians.
  + May assist with grant preparation and reporting.
  + Performs complex statistical analysis of collected/processed data and write interpretative reports.
  + Carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO that will, where possible, lead to novel and important scientific outcomes.
  + Recognise and exploit opportunities for innovation and the generation of new theoretical perspectives, and progress opportunities for the further development or creation of new lines of research
  + Utilise design thinking methodology to plan and prepare research proposals, and apply non-academic impact methodology to research projects
  + Carry out research investigations requiring originality, creativity and innovation
  + Record, manage, and analyse data/information using relevant domain data science techniques.
  + Proactively undertake development to grow effective researcher capabilities to support career goals.
  + Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment procedures and policy, Diversity initiatives and Making Safety Personal goals.
* Other duties as directed.

The CERC Fellow learning, development and training programis developed between the CERC Fellow and their CSIRO supervisor. The program will focus on enhancing the Fellow’s capabilities to the level expected of an independent researcher and will include on-the-job and course-based development encompassing:

* Discipline-specific techniques and protocols
* Professional growth
* Project management
* Communication and influencing skills
* Working and collaborating with others

## **Required Competencies:**

* **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Cooperates with others to achieve organisational objectives and may share team resources in order to do this. Collaborates with other teams as well as industry colleagues.
* **Influence and Communication:** Uses knowledge of other party's priorities and adapts presentations or discussions to appeal to the interests and level of the audience. Anticipates and prepares for others reactions.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Allocates activities, directs tasks and manages resources to meet objectives. Provides coaching and on the job training, recognises and supports staff achievements and fosters open communication in the team.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
* **Independence:** Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).
* **Adaptability:**Copes with ambiguity or situations that lack clarity. Adapts readily to changing circumstances and new responsibilities (which may include activities outside own preferences) in the interests of achieving team objectives. Recognises the need for and undertakes personal development as a result of changes.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

*Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed.*

1. A doctorate (or will shortly satisfy the requirements of a PhD) of Philosophy or of Medicine (MD). The PhD must be in a relevant discipline area, such as neuroscience or a related field.

Please note: To be eligible for this role you must have **no more than 3 years** (or part time equivalent) of relevant research experience.

1. Ability to investigate issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develop appropriate responses by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
2. Demonstrated experience in image techniques for processing and evaluating PET and MRI imaging data (FreeSurfer, SPM, FSL).
3. Experience with Alzheimer’s disease or other neurodegenerative disease, clinical experience would be highly appreciated.
4. A strong background in statistical inference in biomarker estimation models. Proficient use of R or SPSS.
5. The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, plus the motivation and discipline to carry out autonomous research
6. High level written and oral communication skills with the ability to represent the research team effectively internally and externally, including the presentation of research outcomes at national and international conferences.
7. A sound history of publication in peer reviewed journals and/or authorship of scientific papers, reports, grant applications or patents.
8. A record of science innovation and creativity, including the ability & willingness to incorporate novel ideas and approaches into scientific investigations.

## **Desirable:**

1. A strong mathematical/analytical background, in areas related to image analysis.
2. Clinical research experience.
3. Programming skills and software design in languages relevant for medical image analysis research (e.g. Python, MATLAB, R) is strongly preferred.
4. Interest in the translation of new technology into the clinical use.
5. Interest in entrepreneurship and bringing technology to market.

To be appointed as a CERC Fellow within CSIRO, candidates are required to have **submitted** their doctoral thesis at the time of commencement, as a minimum requirement, if PhD conferment has not been obtained. If a candidate has submitted, but their PhD has not yet been formally attained, the starting salary will be CSOF4-1 ($87,068). Upon CSIRO receiving written confirmation that the PhD has been awarded (within a six month period from commencement date), the salary will be increased to the negotiated level and the difference will be back-paid to the Officer’s start date.

Special Requirements

Appointment to this role may be subject to conditions including provision of a national police check as well as other security/medical/character clearance requirements.

Include if relevant:

* The successful candidate will be asked to obtain and provide evidence of a National Police Check or equivalent. Please note that people with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
* If the successful candidate is not an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident, they may be required to undergo additional security clearances, which may include medical examinations and an international standardised test of English language proficiency (i.e. IELTS test).- https://ielts.com.au/

**Our value proposition**

We want CERC Fellows to join our world class science, engineering and digital teams to solve big, complex problems that make a real difference to the future of Australia and the world.

You'll get to work with some of the most talented minds in their fields, not just in Australia, but in the world. At CSIRO, we spark off each other, learn from each other, trust each other and collaborate closely to achieve more than we could individually.

Find out more about our CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Fellow Experience Employee Value Proposition (EVP) [here](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/postdoctoral-fellowships).

## **About CSIRO:**

We solve the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. To find out more visit us [online](http://www.csiro.au/)!

CSIRO is a values-based organisation.  In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:

* 1. People First
  2. Further Together
  3. Making it Real
  4. Trusted

Find out more about CSIRO [Health and Biosecurity](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF)