

**Search for a Spanish Partner for a
Bilateral R&D Project (this document will be shared with potential
Spanish companies)**

Organization	
Date of Request:	09 March 2022
Company name:	Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (Doha, Qatar)
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SECTION 1: Your Company Profile

(Please give brief / to the point explanations. For more explanation on any point below, you may add a short paragraph as an annexure, with this document.)

Business Sector	Research and development
QBRI mission or core functions	<p>Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), a national center of excellence and a global hub for biomedical and translational research, aims to improve and transform healthcare through innovation in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases affecting local and regional populations.</p> <p>QBRI is engaged in basic and applied medical research that strongly supports the translation of novel scientific discoveries into more efficient therapies and better preventative strategies for human diseases, ultimately leading to the development of personalized medicine</p>
Date of establishment	Founded in 2012 and inaugurated in 2017.
Ownership (if public and traded, add stock exchange and ticker symbol)	Research Institute under Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU; Qatar Foundation)
Total number of employees	91

Number of employees in R&D	72 Researchers
Key products sold or services provided	<p>QBRI's core facilities provide a wide spectrum of innovative cutting-edge services and equipment. QBRI core facilities and capabilities include:</p> <p>Genomics: Next Generation Sequencing (RNA, Amplicon, whole genome, exome) Microarray (SNP, CNV, DNA methylation, gene expression, miRNA expression) Sanger sequencing</p> <p>Proteomics: commercial agreements with biotech companies for establishment of cutting-edge high throughput certified platforms for protein (Olink, Simoa) and autoantibody biomarkers immunome protein (Sengenics) research.</p> <p>Structural biology: protein biology, characterization, protein-X interactions</p> <p>Stem cell capabilities: facilitate the development of basic and translational stem cell research by providing scientific expertise, iPSCs derivation, directed differentiations, and genome engineering services.</p> <p>Translational/ clinical research: QBRI's strong partnerships with local organizations, such as Qatar Biobank, Qatar Genome Project, Hamad Medical Corporation, Sidra medicine, Qatar Precision Medicine Institute, and Shafallah Center (for persons with disabilities) provide patients with the access needed to forge a path toward precision medicine in Qatar.</p>
QBRI core technical competences	<p>QBRI's advanced laboratories are major hubs for driving forward cutting-edge research and innovation in Qatar and the region. Key technical competencies are within genomics, proteomics, structural biology, flow cytometry, advanced microscopy and imaging, stem cell and clinical research.</p>
Key R&D programs and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neurological Disorders • Translational Cancer and Immunity • Diabetes
Examples of accomplishments	<p>QBRI's scientists are actively involved in the development of new biomarkers and diagnostic/therapeutic strategies to facilitate early diagnosis, personalized treatment, and management of these debilitating diseases. Some examples of accomplishments are listed below.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QABY biotech: in-house developed and trademarked diagnostic technology encompassing novel antibodies, innovative assays, unique biomarkers and long-standing know-how for tackling neurodegenerative diseases. QABY technologies have been selected by several pharma companies to validate their clinical trials and to produce new diagnostic methods. QABY antibodies and kits are licensed directly to end users. • Partnering with biopharma companies such as H Lundbeck A/S on co-development of pioneering diagnostic tools and assays for Parkinson's disease. • Collaboration with renowned US Cleveland Clinic to validate an autism eye-tracking tool - a test which analyzes a child's visual responses to various stimuli for autism diagnosis. • Investigator and center-driven collaborative initiatives have been established with stakeholders within Qatar and internationally. A key example includes the strategic partnership with the Harvard Stem Cell Institute to conduct joint stem cell research projects.
<p>QBRI strategic orientation</p>	<p>Precision Medicine (PM) is the ultimate goal of QBRI research activities.</p> <p>QBRI's Research Strategy for PM focuses on utilizing multi-omics to understand the risk factors and biological mechanisms behind diseases to enable personalized biomarkers for diagnosis and precise treatments.</p>

SECTION 2: Partner of Interest

(Please provide a brief summary of the prospective partner company or organization. This summary may address some or all of the points below)

<p>Profile of ideal technology partner</p>	<p>Ideally, we are seeking partnerships with companies directed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnostics / Therapeutics: cancer/ infectious diseases and neurodegenerative diseases • Drug development: CNS
<p>Core technological competencies and expertise</p>	<p>We are interested in companies with capabilities in the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biomarker discovery

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Diagnostics & Assay Development capabilities 3. Drug Discovery: Drug Repurposing 4. Clinical Research: Clinical Research Organization (CRO) with capabilities in animal Pharmacokinetics / toxicology studies
<p>Other essential qualifications (e.g.: ownership, track records etc.)</p>	<p>Those with particular interest for regional impact and solid track record in forming international collaborations with academic research institutes.</p>
<p>If you have a list of companies with whom you are in contact or interested in contacting, please provide contact details</p>	<p>A research groups at QBRI (focal point: Dr. Salam Salloum-Asfar) is in contact with LongSeq Applications.</p>
<p>If you are interested in collaboration: please specify details and other important information you want to share with a potential company & Interested area of collaboration</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are seeking licensing opportunities for a suite of Biologics developed at QBRI (Qaby Biotech mentioned under section A) for Diagnostic or Therapeutic Use in Neurodegenerative Diseases and Covid-19. Please see the following link for further information on this licensing opportunity: 2020-048 - A Suite of Biologics for Diagnostic or Therapeutic Use in Neurodegenerative Diseases QF Flintbox 2. We are also seeking collaborative opportunities in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Development of therapies for neurodegenerative diseases such as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy or Frontotemporal dementia. b. Development of a prognostic immune related lncRNA test with clinical value in multiple cancer types. Specifically, we seek support in developing an assay for the lncRNA signature we have identified. c. Development of an assay that can be applied to the clinic, based on a 12-protein signature for early stage prediction of COVID-19 severity (i.e. requiring intubation or fatal).

Specific R&D contribution you are seeking/offering	As a national and regional centre for biomedical research excellence, QBRI, with its access to unique characteristics of the Qatari and Arab populations, is at the forefront of developing innovative approaches to prevent and treat diseases such as cancer, diabetes, infectious diseases, and neurological disorders. We are therefore able to provide access to the latest research results and innovative new tools and methodologies.
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Signature

Name: Narges Amini

Date: 09/03/22