

**HORIZON 2020**  
**MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS**  
**INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP**

<b>Organization Name/ Department/ Website</b>	Department of Applied Biomedical Science Faculty of Health Sciences University of Malta
<b>Organization Short Name</b>	UM
<b>Organization Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Non-academic
<b>Research Fields</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry (CHE) <input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC) <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Sciences (ECO) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Science and Engineering (ENG) <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Geosciences (ENV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Life Sciences (LIF) <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics (MAT) <input type="checkbox"/> Physics (PHY)
<b>Sub-Fields/ Keywords</b>	Genomics of Glaucoma
<b>Short Description of the Organization/ Department</b>	<p>At the UM there are over 11,000 students including over 750 foreign/exchange students from 82 different countries, following full-time or part-time degree and diploma courses. The University is geared towards the infrastructural and industrial needs of the country so as to provide expertise in crucial fields. Well over 3,000 students graduate in various disciplines annually. The degree courses at the University are designed to produce highly qualified professionals, with experience of research, who will play key roles in industry, commerce and public affairs in general.</p> <p>The University has been involved as coordinator and partner in numerous EU-funded projects</p>

	<p>under various Programmes including FP5/6/7, Lifelong Learning Programme, Culture 2000, Tempus and various other international and regional programmes and initiatives. The University is also represented in a number of European and international University networks and groups.</p> <p>The Department of Applied Biomedical Science within the Faculty of Health Sciences is responsible for undergraduate teaching leading to a B.Sc. (Hons) in Applied Biomedical Science (previously Medical Laboratory Science) and post-graduate teaching leading to an MSc (by Research) in Applied Biomedical Science. The Department is currently expanding its doctoral programme and has an active research programme, in areas which include: Genetics and Genomics of Osteoporosis, Inflammation, Atherosclerosis and Myocardial Infarction, Transcriptional Regulation and Control of Globin Gene Expression and High Throughput Sequencing of disorders common to the Maltese Islands. The Department of Applied Biomedical Science is also a founding member of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and BioBanking. The Centre brings together some 30 senior scientists from 3 Faculties of the University (8 departments) and the Department of Health and a similar number of younger researchers pursuing MSc, PhD and postdoctoral programmes. The Centre is a hub of research activities that in the main focus on the molecular mechanisms that give rise to disease.</p>
<p><b>Short Description of the Project idea</b> <b>(if foreseeable)</b></p>	<p>Exome sequencing data on Maltese family members with pseudoexfoliative glaucoma have highlighted candidate genes, variants and pathways that may be involved in this condition which can cause vision loss. Additional families and patients need to be recruited and tested using whole genome or exome sequencing to confirm findings or to find additional genetic variants. Confirmation of the biological pathway involved would be the first step towards identification of people at risk and towards new preventive therapies.</p>

<b>Related Call</b>	MSCA-IF-2018
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