

**Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**  
**Individual Fellowships Call – Expression of Interest**

<b>Organisation Details</b> <b>SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CÚRAM)</b>	Organisation Name SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CÚRAM) Galway Ireland <a href="http://www.curamdevices.ie">http://www.curamdevices.ie</a>	
<b>Organisation Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Large Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> SME <input type="checkbox"/> Public Research Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Body <input type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit <input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> )
<b>Research Field(s)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry CHE <input type="checkbox"/> Social and Human Sciences SOC <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Sciences ECO <input checked="" 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>Keywords:</b> Functionalised biomaterials, glyco biology, intervertebral disc disease
<b>Short Description of the Organisation and the Faculty/Dept./School/ Centre</b>	The SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CÚRAM) is a multidisciplinary academic-industry-clinician centre which brings together research strength and capacity in biomaterials and drug delivery, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, glycoscience and device design. CÚRAM is the national research centre for medical devices, developing affordable, innovative transformative device-based solutions to treat global chronic diseases. CÚRAM supports industry from basic scientific research, through translational preclinical and clinical development, into regulatory and commercialisation readiness.	
<b>Short Description of the Research Project/Topic</b>	The applicant will develop a therapeutic strategy to reverse the changes during the degenerative process which is imperative for any treatment to restore the functionality of the intervertebral disc. The applicant will develop and validate a novel hydrogel designed to mimic the nucleus pulposus (NP) cell extracellular matrix (ECM) microenvironment to promote homeostasis of the relevant resulting bioengineered NP matrix tissue.	
<b>Expertise required by the applicant</b>	The candidate must have be an experienced researcher of any nationality with at least 4 years full-time post graduate research experience and hold a PhD preferably in the areas of Biomaterials, Bioengineering or another Biomedical or Biological discipline. The ideal candidate should have expertise in biomaterials science, cell culture, molecular biology, glyco biology, in vitro and in vivo assays, histology, immunohistochemistry, and stereology. Previous experience in pre-clinical models is preferred. Applicants with experience in elucidating the role of glycosylation pertaining to disc	

<b>Expertise required by the applicant</b>	degeneration mechanisms and regeneration/repair therapies are particularly encouraged to apply. The candidate should be fluent in spoken and written English with excellent communication, team working and leadership skills. The ideal candidate would have a stellar publication record including indicatively nine first author papers (relevant to career stage) published in high-impact journals, and be the author of patent applications and have teaching experience relevant to their career stage. Candidates should have a keen interest in cutting edge research and in pursuing pre-clinical research in the biomedical field. The candidate should ideally have journal referring experience, grant reviewing expertise and have demonstrated the capacity to secure personal funding. The candidate must fulfil the mobility rules of the Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowships ( <a href="http://www.iua.ie/irish-marie-curie-office/funding-calls/individual-fellowships/">http://www.iua.ie/irish-marie-curie-office/funding-calls/individual-fellowships/</a> ). The candidate must move to Ireland to conduct the proposed project.
<b>Career development support offered to fellows</b>	In 2013 NUI Galway was awarded the HR Excellence in Research Logo by the European Commission in recognition of its commitment to implementing the principles of European Charter and Code for Researchers. The candidate will undertake modules including career development, teaching, postgraduate supervision skills, active learner engagement and critical thinking provided by the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) ( <a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie/celt/">http://www.nuigalway.ie/celt/</a> ) at NUI Galway. The candidate will also undertake modules in intellectual property, regulatory affairs, clinical trial design, reimbursement strategies, medical device evaluation and regulatory affairs which will equip the candidate with appropriate skill-sets required by the EU labour market.
<b>Application procedure</b>	The applicant would conduct his/her research project under the mentorship of Prof Abhay Pandit. Applications are requested to submit a covering letter, a detailed CV, a summary of their research interests, and the names and contact details of two referees as e-mail attachments (PDF format only) to Mr Keith Feerick ( <a href="mailto:keith.feerick@nuigalway.ie">keith.feerick@nuigalway.ie</a> ). All documents should be submitted by Friday, the 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2016.
<b>Contact Person</b>	Mr Keith Feerick ( <a href="mailto:keith.feerick@nuigalway.ie">keith.feerick@nuigalway.ie</a> )