

Aligning the Activities of a Technology Transfer Office with the Social Mission of a Life Sciences Research Institute in Portugal: Opportunities and Challenges for a New Office

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Introduction

This paper outlines the opportunities, concerns, and strategies associated with setting up a technology transfer office (TTO) in Portugal, at a publicly funded life sciences research institute, the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC). First, it discusses the lessons learned from North American models of TTO formation and how best to accomplish the translation of science into valuable assets for the benefit of society. Next, it gives an overview of the history and current landscape of technology transfer in Portugal. Finally, the paper explores the opportunities and challenges in setting up a TTO at the IGC.