1. Please write a brief introduction about yourself. (<50 words)

My name is Sherihan El-Sayed, Lecturer of Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Design at Faculty of Pharmacy, Zagazig University in Egypt. Recently, I completed my PhD at the University of Manchester in July 2023.

1. What is your main professional interest? (50 – 100 words)

My main interest is computer-aided drug design which involve design of novel drugs to a specific target protein to discover novel treatment strategy. Also, I am interested in applying molecular dynamics simulations and other molecular modelling techniques either to probe the mechanism of activation of target or studying the binding mode of drugs to target. My main focus during my PhD research was computational design and biological evaluation of novel inhibitors targeting NLRP3 inflammasome. Moreover, MD simulation was used to get insights in the mechanism of NLRP3 activation. The list of my publication in the following link <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6325-6546>.

1. What were your expectations from the EMBO Workshop “Computational models of life: From molecular biology to digital twins”? (50 words)

I was interested to join this workshop to connect with the experts in the field as I am looking for a postdoctoral position. Also, I expected to know about advanced techniques in molecular modelling and drug design.

1. Have these expectations been met? Please elaborate (50-100 words)

To some extent yes. It was great to hear about advanced topics related to bioinformatics however I expected more talks related to cheminformatics.

6.       What is your feedback regarding gender balance and equality in this workshop (from any aspects that stood out to you: speakers, interactions, safety, topics, etc.)? (50-100 words)

Overall, the workshop was a great time to learn, build new collaboration and update my knowledge in the field. I think there was balance in both the speakers and attendees. Different genders, nationalities and ethnic groups were represented. Finally, I would like to thank the organizers for their generous support and quick response either before the workshop or during the events.