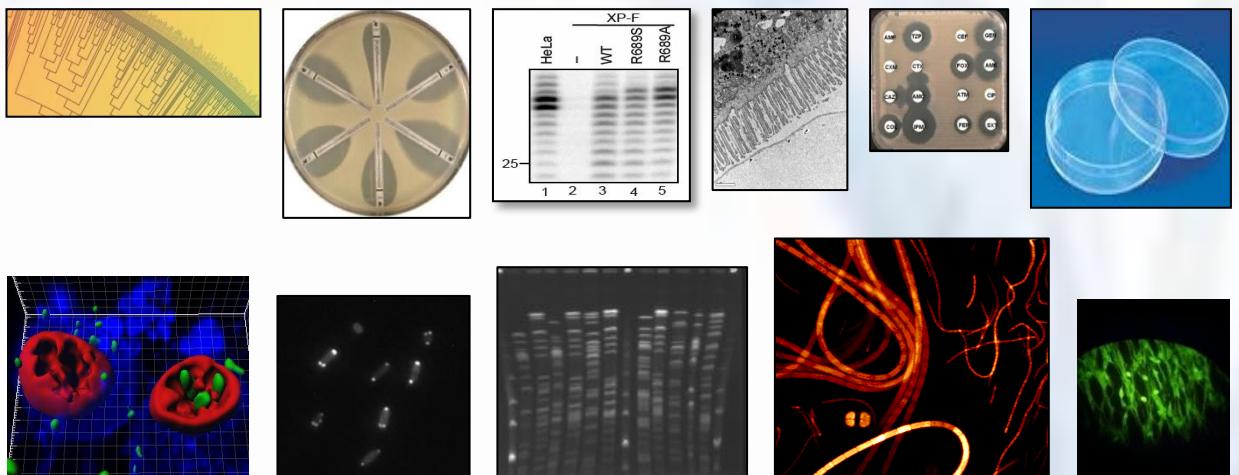

Department of Genetics and Microbiology

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



2016

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT



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Introducció / Introduction



És per mi un plaer escriure aquestes línies d'introducció de la memòria de recerca del 2016. Aquest és el meu primer any com a Director del Departament i voldria agrair, en primer lloc, la confiança que han depositat en mi els seus membres i, en segon lloc, la excel·lent tasca feta per l'anterior Director: el Dr. Jordi Surrallés.

Com ja deia l'anterior Director en la Introducció de la memòria del 2015, aquests últims anys el Departament no ha estat aliè a la crisis econòmica del nostre país que ha afectat de forma directe i continuada al sector públic. Hem sofert una important reducció del nostre pressupost i hem perdut capacitat de contractació de professorat no permanent, fent que la càrrega docent del professorat augmenti. Malgrat tot, tots els indicadors de recerca indiquen que el nivell d'excel·lència científica del nostre Departament es manté i, inclús en alguns paràmetres, augmenta. S'ha mantingut el nombre de publicacions indexades de l'any passat, el nombre més alt d'aquests darrers sis anys, amb un índex d'impacte mitjà de 13,6 corresponent al 10% de les publicacions de major valor. El mateix passa amb el nombre de tesis dirigitas que, junt a l'any anterior, es manté en 24, el valor més alt d'aquest darrers 6 anys. Així mateix, cal indicar que s'ha assolit el major ingrés d'aquest darrers 6 anys en quant a projectes competitius: 1.254.102 €.

Únicament resta donar les gràcies a tots els membres del Departament que han fet possible al manteniment del nivell d'excel·lència del nostre Departament.

It is a pleasure for me to write these introductory words for this 2016 Research Report. This is my first year as Director of the Department and I would like to thank, first of all, the trust that my colleagues have placed in me and, in addition, I would also like to acknowledge the excellent work of the outgoing Director, Dr. Jordi Surrallés.

As the previous Director stated in the introduction of the 2015's report , in the last years, the Department has not scape from the economic crisis suffered by our country that has directly and continuously affected the public sector. We have undergone a significant reduction in our budget and we have lost potential to hiring non-permanent teachers, increasing the teaching load of the remaining staff. However, all the research indicators show that the level of scientific excellence of our Department is maintained and, even in some parameters, increases. The number of indexed publications reach the same value than last year, that was the highest in the last six years. The average impact index of the 10% of publications with higher value reach a value of 13.6. The same occur with the number of doctoral theses that, together with the previous year, remain at 24, the highest value in the last 6 years. Likewise, it should be noted that the highest income in the last 6 years has been achieved in terms of competitive projects: € 1,254,102.

To finish , I wish to thank all the members of the Department who have made it possible to maintain the level of excellence of our Department.

Prof. Noel Xamena
Director del Departament

The Department

The Department of Genetics and Microbiology (DGM) is in charge of organizing and developing research and teaching in the disciplines included in the areas of Genetics and Microbiology. It is an Interfaculty Department, formed by three Units, two located in the Campus at the Faculty of BioSciences (Genetics Unit and Microbiology Unit Campus) and the third (Medical Microbiology Unit) for integrated teaching and research in the area Clinical Microbiology at the five UAB Hospitals (Sant Pau, Vall d'Hebron, Hospital del Mar, Germans Trias i Pujol and Parc Taulí).

The activity of DGM is fully committed to participate in the unprecedented intellectual adventure of Biology in the XXI century. We work hard to (i) contribute with our ability and commitment to scientific excellence in the research areas of Genetics and Microbiology; (ii) provide quality teaching and education to our students, future researchers, teachers and professionals in these areas; and (iii) contribute to increase the wellbeing of our society through the practical application of our expertise in biomedicine and other industrial sectors such as biotechnology, food, pharmacy and environment, among others

Further info at:

<http://www.uab.cat/departament/genetica-microbiologia/>

The screenshot shows the official website of the UAB Department of Genetics and Microbiology. The header features the UAB logo, the UBCEI logo, and the text 'DEPARTAMENT DE GENÈTICA I MICROBIOLOGIA'. A large red fly image is on the right. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with links for 'El departament', 'La docència', and 'La recerca'. The main content area has a large red background image of microorganisms. At the bottom, there are several news items and links to direct services like 'UABDivulga', 'Ajuts, Beques i Convocatòries', and 'Publicacions científiques'.

NOTÍCIES

Mesuren per primer cop l'avantatge evolutiu de la recombinació genètica en el genoma

Investigadors de la UAB han quantificat un dels fenòmens més importants i més difícils de mesurar en evolució molecular: l'efecte de la recombinació genètica en la capaïtat d'adaptació d'una espècie. [+]

30a. EDICIÓ Aspects Generals i d'investigació

Els seminaris de càncer de mama celebren la 30a edició amb un programa especial

DESTACATS

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT - 2014

ENLLAÇOS DIRECTES

- UABDivulga
- Ajuts, Beques i Convocatòries
- UABCercador
- Publicacions científiques
- Parc de la Recerca
- Tesis en xarxa
- Grups de recerca
- Mobilitat i intercanvi

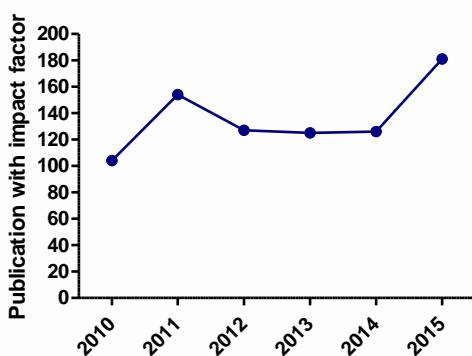
CONTACTA AMB NOSALTRES

Analysis of Scientific Production (2016)

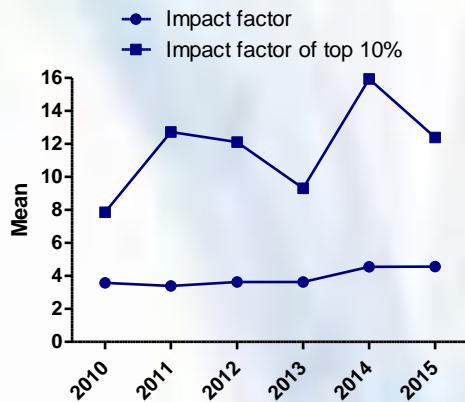


	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of publication with impact factor	104	154	127	125	126	181	181
Total impact factor	372,43	521,38	460,76	454,33	569,71	826,80	793,69
Mean impact factor	3,58	3,39	3,63	3,63	4,55	4,57	4,38
Mean impact factor of top 10%	7,86	12,73	12,11	9,31	15,94	12,39	13,06
PhD thesis defended	21	20	17	17	12	24	24
Competitive income (grants) in euros	940.412	781.163	962.260	382.874	931.469	133.100	1.054.491
Non-competitive income in euros	82.912	184.065	247.820	84.358	80.198	357.958	199.611
Total income in euros	1.023.324	965.229	1.210.081	467.232	1.011.667	491.058	1.254.102

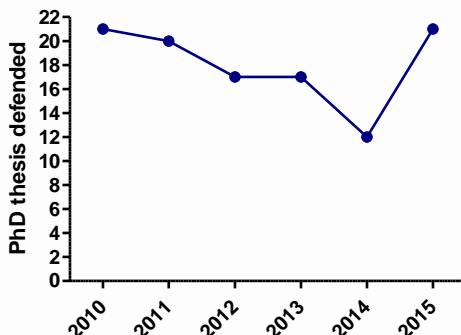
Number of indexed publications



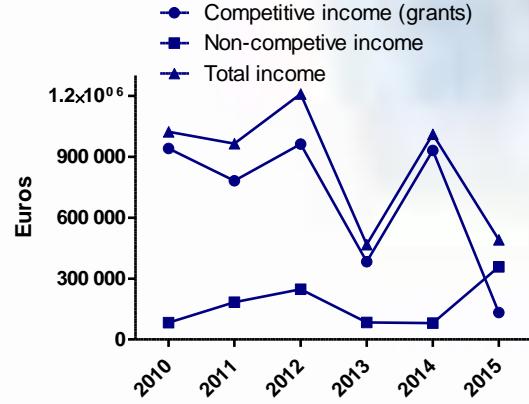
Impact Factors (SCI)



Number of PhD Thesis

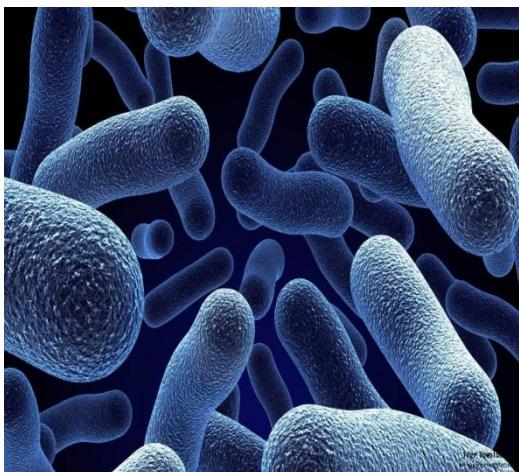


Financial research incomes



Research Groups Performance

2016



Bacterial Pathogenesis and Antimicrobials Group

Members

Dr. Isidre Gibert (PI)

Dr. Xavier Daura (PI)

Dr. Daniel Yero

Dra. Celeste Gómez

Marta Calvet

Oscar Conchillo

Xavi Coves

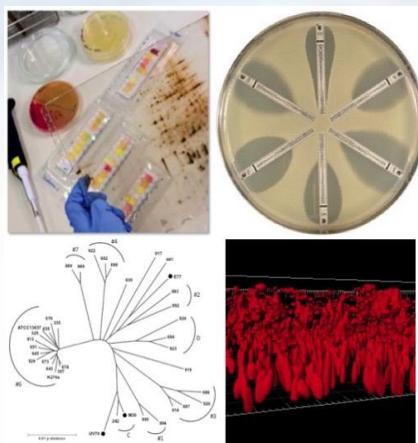
Messiner Gomes

Sònia Martínez-Servat

Pablo Rodríguez



Web: <http://ibb.uab.cat>



Research

The main objective of our research group is the development of new strategies to combat infections by multidrug-resistant (MDR) bacteria. Our team combines a range of experimental and computational techniques for the identification of antimicrobial-target and vaccine-antigen candidates with new modes of action. Specifically, we are engaged in the following types of activities:

- Development of bioinformatic methods for the identification of novel antimicrobial-drug targets, antigens and their epitopes in pathogenic bacteria.
- Experimental validation and characterisation of identified antigens and antimicrobial-drug targets.
- Biomolecular modelling and simulation for the design of synthetic vaccines.
- Target-based virtual screening for antimicrobial-drug discovery.
- Experimental validation of hit antimicrobial compounds.

Publications 2016

- ✓ Torrealba D, Parra D, Seras-Franzoso J, Vallejos-Vidal E, Yero D, Gibert I, Villaverde A, Garcia-Fruitós E, Roher N. Nanostructured recombinant cytokines: A highly stable alternative to short-lived prophylactics. *Biomaterials*. **2016**;107:102-14. DOI 10.1016/j.biomaterials.2016.08.043
- ✓ Ferrer-Navarro M, Torrent G, Mongiardini E, Conchillo-Solé O, Gibert I, Daura X. Proteomic analysis of outer membrane proteins and vesicles of a clinical isolate and a collection strain of *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*. *J Proteomics*. **2016**;142:122-9. DOI 10.1016/j.jprot.2016.05.001
- ✓ Gomez A, Andreu N, Ferrer-Navarro M, Yero D, Gibert I. Triclosan-induced genes Rv1686c-Rv1687c and Rv3161c are not involved in triclosan resistance in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. *Sci Rep*. **2016**;6:26221. DOI 10.1088/1758-5090/8/2/025001
- ✓ Pesarrodona M, Fernández Y, Foradada L, Sánchez-Chardi A, Conchillo-Solé O, Unzueta U, Xu Z, Roldán M, Villegas S, Ferrer-Miralles N, Schwartz S Jr, Rinas U, Daura X, Abasolo I, Vázquez E, Villaverde A. Conformational and functional variants of CD44-targeted protein nanoparticles bio-produced in bacteria. *Biofabrication*. **2016**;8(2):025001. DOI 10.1088/1758-5090/8/2/025001

Basic and Applied Microbiology Group

Members

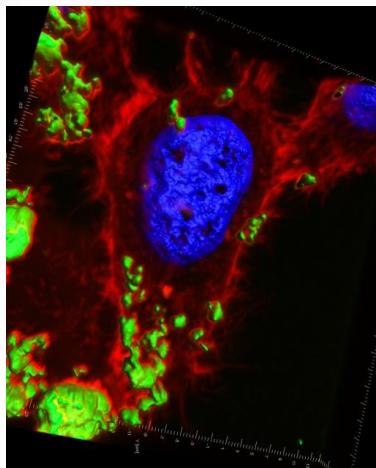
Dr. Antonio Villaverde (PI)

Dr. Marina Luquín
Dr. Neus Ferrer-Miralles
Dr. Esther Julián
Dr. José Luis Corchero
Dr. Esther Vázquez
Dr. Paolo Saccardo
Dr. Estela Noguera
Rosa Mendoza
Mercedes Márquez
Cristina Sosa
Mireia Pesarrodona
Marta Llorens
Jose Vicente Carratalá
Olivia Cano
Naroa Serna
Laura Sánchez
Sandra Guallar
Marc Bach
Marianna Favaro
Fabián Rueda
Esther Martínez



Web: http://ibb.uab.cat/ibb/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=127&lang=english
<https://sites.google.com/site/mycobacteriaresearchlabuab/publications>

Research



We generate nanostructured protein materials for biomedical applications, namely drug delivery, gene therapy, protein replacement and tissue engineering. In this context, we exploit diverse prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell factories for the design and bioproduction of self-assembling proteins. These engineered polypeptides are the basis for the design of smart functional materials displaying mechanical stability, regular geometry and refined properties such as specific cell binding, receptor-mediated internalization, intracellular trafficking and drug delivery. Most of our current collaborative projects are devoted to new nanosized drugs for the treatment of colorectal cancer. In another research line we focus on the study of environmental mycobacteria species as immunostimulatory and immunotherapeutic agents for the treatment of tuberculosis and cancer.

Publications 2016

- 2015 Impact factors are indicated in all cases.**
- ✓ María Virtudes Céspedes, Yolanda Fernández, Ugutz Unzueta, Rosa Mendoza, Joaquin Seras-Franzoso, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Patricia Álamo, Verónica Toledo-Rubio, Neus Ferrer-Miralles, Esther Vázquez Simó Schwartz Jr, Ibane Abasolo, José Luis Corchero, Ramon Mangues, Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Bacterial mimetics of endocrine secretory granules as implantable depot materials for functional protein drugs. *Scientific Reports* 6:35765. **5.228**
 - ✓ Ingrid Cabrera, Ibane Abasolo, Jose L. Corchero, Elisa Elizondo, Pilar Rivera, Evelyn Moreno, Jordi Faraudo, Santi Sala, Dolores Bueno, Elisabet Gonzalez-Mira, Merche Rivas, Marta Melgarejo, Daniel Pulido, Fernando Albericio, Miriam Royo, Antonio Villaverde, Maria F. García-Parajo, Simo Schwartz Jr., Nora Ventosa and Jaume Veciana. 2016. α -Galactosidase Loaded Nanoliposomes with Enhanced Enzymatic Activity and Intracellular Penetration. *Advanced Healthcare Materials*, 5: 829-840. **5.760**
 - ✓ Laura Sanchez-Garcia; Lucas Martín; Ramon Mangues; Neus Ferrer-Miralles; Esther Vazquez; Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Recombinant pharmaceuticals from microbial cells; a 2015 update. *Microbial Cell Factories* 15:33. **3.744**
 - ✓ Corchero JL. 2016. Eukaryotic aggresomes: from a model of conformational diseases to an emerging type of immobilized biocatalyzers. *Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology* 100: 559-569. **3.30**

Publications 2016 (cont)

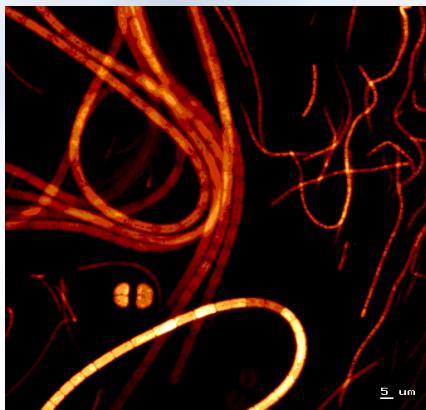
- ✓ Naroa Serna, María Virtudes Céspedes, Paolo Saccardo, Zhikun Xu, Ugutz Unzueta, Patricia Álamo, Mireia Pesarrodona, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Mónica Roldán, Ramón Mangues, Esther Vázquez , Antonio Villaverde, Neus Ferrer-Miralles. 2016. Rational engineering of single-chain polypeptides into protein-only, BBB-targeted nanoparticles. *Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology, and Medicine* 12: 1241–1251. **5.671**
- ✓ Saccardo P, Corchero JL, Ferrer-Miralles, N. 2016. Tools to cope with difficult-to-express proteins. *Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology* 100(10): 4347-4355. **3.30**
- ✓ Ramon Mangues, Esther Vazquez, Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Targeting in cancer therapies. *Medical Sciences* 4: 6.
- ✓ Joaquin Seras-Franzoso, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Elena García-Fruitós, Esther Vázquez and Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Cellular uptake and intracellular fate of protein releasing bacterial amyloids in mammalian cells. *Soft Matter* 12, 3451. **3.798**
- ✓ Mireia Pesarrodona, Yolanda Fernández, Laia Foradada, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Oscar Conchillo-Solé, Ugutz Unzueta, Zhikun Xu, Mónica Roldán, Sandra Villegas; Neus Ferrer-Miralles, Simó Schwartz, Ursula Rinas, Xavier Daura, Ibane Abasolo, Esther Vázquez, and Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Conformational and functional variants of CD44-targeted protein nanoparticles bio-produced in bacteria. *Biofabrication* 8: 025001. **4.702**
- ✓ Fabián Rueda, María Virtudes Céspedes, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Joaquin Seras-Franzoso, Mireia Pesarrodona , Neus Ferrer-Miralles, Esther Vázquez, Ursula Rinas, Ugutz Unzueta, Uwe Mamat, Ramón Mangues, Elena García-Fruitós, Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Structural and functional features of self-assembling protein nanoparticles produced in endotoxin-free Escherichia coli. *Microbial Cell Factories* 15:59. **3.744**
- ✓ Esther Vazquez, Ramon Mangues and Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Functional cooperativity in drug delivery through protein-based nanotechnologies. *Nanomedicine (Lond)*. 1, 1333-1336. **4.889**
- ✓ María Virtudes Céspedes, Ugutz Unzueta, Patricia Álamo, Alberto Gallardo, Rita Sala, Isolda Casanova, Miguel Angel Pavón, María Antonia Mangues, Manuel Trías, Antonio Lopez-Pousa, Antonio Villaverde, Esther Vazquez, Ramon Mangues. 2016. Cancer-specific uptake of a liganded protein nanocarrier targeting aggressive CXCR4+ colorectal cancer models. *Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology, and Medicine*. 12: 1987–1996. **5.671**
- ✓ Olivia Cano-Garrido, María Virtudes Céspedes, Ugutz Unzueta, Paolo Saccardo, Mònica Roldán, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Rafael Cubarsi, Esther Vázquez, Ramon Mangues, Elena García-Fruitós, Antonio Villaverde. 2016. CXCR4+-targeted protein nanoparticles produced in the food-grade bacterium *Lactococcus lactis*. *Nanomedicine (Lond)*. 11:2387-2398. **4.889**
- ✓ Débora Torrealba, Joaquin Seras-Franzoso, Uwe Mamat, Kathleen Wilke, Antonio Villaverde, Nerea Roher and Elena Garcia-Fruitós. 2016. Complex particulate biomaterials as immunostimulant-delivery platforms. *PLOS ONE* 11: e0164073. **3.057**
- ✓ Fabián Rueda; Brigitte Gasser; Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi; Mònica Roldán; Sandra Villegas; Verena Puxbaum; Neus Ferrer-Miralles; Ugutz Unzueta; Esther Vazquez; Elena García-Fruitós; Diethard Mattanovich; Antonio Villaverde. 2016. Functional inclusion bodies produced in the yeast *Pichia pastoris*. *Microbial Cell Factories* 15:166. **3.744**
- ✓ Giannotti MI, Abasolo I, Oliva M, Andrade F, García-Aranda N, Melgarejo M, Pulido D, Corchero JL, Fernández Y, Villaverde A, Royo M, Garcia-Parajo MF, Sanz F, Schwartz S Jr. 2016. Highly versatile polyelectrolyte complexes for improving the enzyme replacement therapy of lysosomal storage disorders. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* 8: 25741-25752. **7.145**
- ✓ Débora Torrealba, David Parra, Joaquin Seras-Franzoso, Eva Vallejos, Daniel Yero, Isidre Gibert, Antonio Villaverde, Elena Garcia-Fruitós and Nerea Roher. 2016. Nanostructured recombinant cytokines: a highly stable alternative to short-lived prophylactics. *Biomaterials* 107, 102–114. **8.387**
- ✓ Olivia Cano-Garrido, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Sílvia Parés, Irene Giró, Witold I. Tatkiewicz, Neus Ferrer-Miralles, Imma Ratera, Antonino Natalello, Rafael Cubarsi, Jaume Veciana, Àlex Bach, Antonio Villaverde, Anna Arís, and Elena Garcia-Fruitós. 2016. Functional protein-based nanomaterial produced in GRAS microorganism: a new platform for biotechnology. *Acta Biomaterialia*. 43: 230-239. **6.008**
- ✓ Cecilia Brambilla, Marta Llorens, Esther Julián, Estela Noguera-Ortega, Cristina Tomàs-Martínez, Miriam Pérez-Trujillo, Thomas F Byrd, Fernando Alcaide, and Marina Luquin M. 2016. Mycobacteria Clumping Increase Their Capacity to Damage Macrophages. *Front. Microbiol.* 7:1562. **4.165**
- ✓ Estela Noguera-Ortega , Núria Blanco-Cabra, Rosa María Rabanal, Alejandro Sánchez-Chardi, Mònica Roldán, Sandra Guallar-Garrido, Eduard Torrents, Marina Luquin, and Esther Julián. 2016. Mycobacteria emulsified in olive oil-in-water trigger a robust immune response in bladder cancer treatment. *Scientific Reports. Sci. Rep.* 6, 27232. **5.228**
- ✓ Giuseppe D'Auria, Eduard Torrents, Marina Luquin, Iñaki Comas and Esther Julián. Draft Genome Sequence of *Mycobacterium brumae* ATCC 51384. *Genome Announcements*. March/April 2016 4:e00237-16.
- ✓ Michelle Fernanda Brugnera, Reynaldo Bundalian, Tamara Laube, Esther Julián, Marina Luquin, Maria Valnice Boldrin Zanoni, and Maria Isabel Pividori. 2016. Magneto-actuated immunoassay for the detection of *Mycobacterium fortuitum* in hemodialysis water. *Talanta*. 153: 38–44. **4.035**
- ✓ Estela Noguera-Ortega, Rosa María Rabanal, Silvia Secanella-Fandos, Eduard Torrents, Marina Luquin, and Esther 2016. Gamma-irradiated mycobacteria enhance survival in bladder tumor-bearing mice although less efficaciously than live mycobacteria. *The Journal of Urology*. 195(1):198-205. **4.360**
- ✓ Estela Noguera-Ortega, Silvia Secanella-Fandos, Hasier Eraña, Jofre Gasión, Rosa María Rabanal, Marina Luquin, Eduard Torrents, and Esther Julián. 2016. The non-pathogenic *Mycobacterium brumae* inhibits bladder cancer growth in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo. *European Urology Focus*. 2 (1): 67–76.
- ✓ Estela Noguera-Ortega, and Esther Julián. 2016. Papel del aceite de oliva en el tratamiento del cáncer de vejiga. *Revista Almazaras*. 5: 70-74.

Environmental Microbiology Group

Members

Dr. Olga Sánchez (PI)

Dr. Isabel Esteve
Dr. Núria Gaju
Dr. Marc Llirós
Dr. Maira Martínez
Dr. Jordi Mas
Dr. Antoni Solé
Laia Millach
Eloi Parladé
Ferran Pujol
Cristina Sosa
Núria Tomás
Núria Vigués



Research

The scientific activity of the group relates to applied areas in the field of Environmental Microbiology, which have in common the impact of human activities on ecosystems, such as the study of the response of microbial communities to contaminants, as well as the development of electrochemical sensors for the measurement of toxicity in waters. The group is also specialized in the application of high throughput methodologies to understand the functional potential of microbial communities and the factors that regulate them in natural environments.

Publications 2016

- ✓ Alonso A, Vigués N, Rodríguez-Rodríguez R, Borrisé X, Muñoz M, Muraviev DN, Mas J, Muñoz-Berbel X. Self-oriented Ag-based polycrystalline cubic nanostructures through polymer stabilization. *Nanotechnology* 2016, 27:425603.
- ✓ Bastos-Arrieta J, Muñoz J, Vigués N, Muraviev DN, Céspedes F, Mas J, Baeza M, Muñoz M. Intermatrix synthesis of Ag, AgAu and Au nanoparticles by the galvanic replacement strategy for bactericidal and electrocatalytically active nanocomposites. *New Journal of Chemistry* 2016, 40:10344-10352.
- ✓ Domenech B, Ziegler K, Vigués N, Olszewski W, Marini C, Mas J, Muñoz M, Muraviev DM, Macanas J. Polyurethane foams doped with stable silver nanoparticles as bactericidal and catalytic materials for the effective treatment of water. *New Journal of Chemistry* 2016, 40:3716.
- ✓ Ferrera I, Sánchez O. Insights into microbial diversity in wastewater treatment systems: How far have we come? *Biotechnology Advances* 2016, 34:790-802.
- ✓ Giné A, Carrasquilla M, Martínez-Alonso M, Gaju N, Sorribas FJ. Characterization of soil suppressiveness to root knot nematodes in organic horticulture in plastic greenhouse. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 2015, 7.
- ✓ Godino N, Dávila D, Vigués N, Ordeig O, Del Campo FJ, Mas J, Muñoz FX. Corrigendum to “Measuring acute toxicity using a solid-state microrespirometer: Part II. A theoretical framework for the elucidation of metabolic parameters” [Sens. Actuators B: Chemical 2008, 135:13–20]. *Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical* 2016, 224:944.
- ✓ Mallén-Alberdi M, Vigués N, Mas J, Fernández-Sánchez C, Baldi A. Impedance spectral fingerprint of *E.coli* cells on interdigitated electrodes: A new approach for label free and selective detection. *Sensing and Bio-Sensing Research*. 2016, 7:100-106.

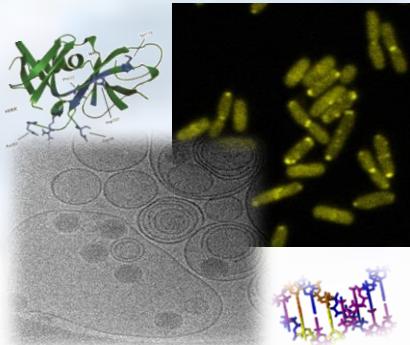
- ✓ Márquez-Maqueda A, Ríos-Gallardo JM, Vigués N, Pujol F, Díaz-González M, Mas J, Jiménez-Jorquera C, Domínguez C, Muñoz-Berbel X. Enzymatic Biosensors Based on Electrodeposited Alginate Hydrogels. *Procedia Engineering* 2016, 168:622 – 625.
- ✓ Otón J, Pereiro E, Pérez-Berná AJ, Millach L, Sorzano COS, Marabini R, Carazo JM. Characterization of transfer function, resolution and depth of field of a soft X-ray microscope applied to tomography enhancement by Wiener deconvolution. *Biomedical Optics Express* 2016, 7:5092-5103.
- ✓ Pujol-Vila F, Giménez-Gómez P, Santamaría N, Antúnez B, Vigués N, Díaz-González M, Jiménez-Jorquera C, Mas J, Sacristán J, Muñoz-Berbel M. Portable and miniaturized optofluidic analysis system with ambient light correction for fast in situ determination of environmental pollution. *Sensors and Actuators B*. 2016, 222:55-62.
- ✓ Pujol-Vila F, Vigués N, Guerrero-Navarro AE, Jiménez S, Gómez D, Fernández M, Bori J, Vallès B, Riba MC, Muñoz-Berbel X, Mas J. Paper-based chromatic toxicity bioassay by analysis of bacterial ferricyanide reduction. *Analytica Chimica Acta*. 2016, 910:60-67.
- ✓ Sánchez O. Constructed wetlands revisited: Microbial diversity in the *-omics* era. *Microbial Ecology* 2016, doi:10.1007/s00248-016-0881-y.
- ✓ Sánchez O (editor). Environmental engineering and activated sludge processes. Models, methodologies and applications. Apple Academic Press, 2016. ISBN 978-1-77188-388-7.
- ✓ Trueba-Santiso A, Parladé E, Rosell M, Llirós M, Mortan SH, Martínez-Alonso M, Gaju N, Martín-González L, Vicent T, Marco-Urrea E. Molecular and carbon isotopic characterization of an anaerobic stable enrichment culture containing *Dehalobacterium* sp. during dichloromethane fermentation. *Science of the Total Environment* 2016, in press.

Molecular Microbiology Group

Members

Dr. Jordi Barbé (PI)

Dr. Montserrat Llagostera
Dr. Susana Campoy
Dr. Jesús Aranda
Dr. M. Pilar Cortés
Oihane Irazoki
Jennifer Otero
María Pérez Varela
Miquel Sánchez Osuna
Jordi Corral
Joan Ruiz
Susana Escribano



Research

Research is focused in the following three topics: i) DNA repair (SOS system) and mechanisms of bacterial pathogenesis; ii) Design of vaccine for animal pathogens; iii) Mechanisms of antibiotic resistance and bacteriophage therapy.

Publications 2016

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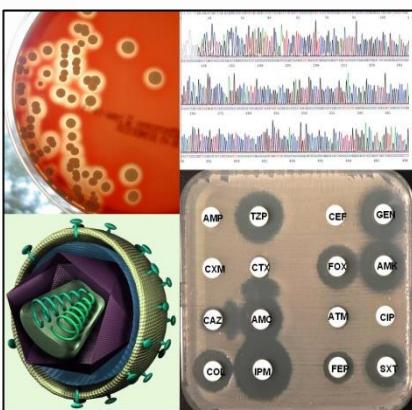
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Research

The Research Group of Microbiology at Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR) focuses on the study of the microbiology aspects, at basic, translational and clinical research, that could improve the outcomes of patients with infectious diseases. We work with special interest in studying the mechanisms involved in antimicrobial resistance, sexually transmitted infections, viral respiratory infections, international health infections, and viral and fungal infections in immunocompromised patients.

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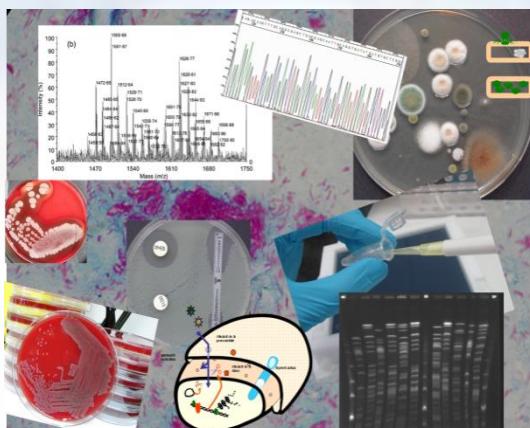
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Research

This is a multi-disciplinary group of researchers from the Department of Microbiology and, the Infectious Diseases Unit at Hospital Santa Creu i Sant Pau. Our research lines focus on two main interrelated areas. The first of these is antimicrobial resistance. This area includes the study of molecular epidemiology (population and clonality studies in bacteria, mycobacteria, fungi and viruses), molecular bases of bacterial resistance to antibiotics, vectors that convey resistance genes (plasmids, transposons, integrons, phages), and the use of molecular techniques in diagnosis of infectious diseases. The second area emphasizes research related to bacteraemia and endocarditis, nosocomial infections, prosthetic joint infections, central nervous system infections, and tuberculosis.

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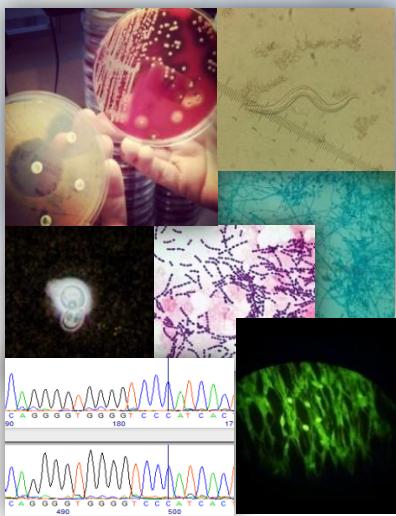
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Research



Our Group, led by Prof. Vicente Ausina, MD, PhD, Head of the Microbiology Service at Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol, is involved in several Spanish research networks including REIPI, RESITRA, CIBERES and CIBERESP and is focused in the development, standardization and clinical evaluation of microbiological, immunological and molecular techniques in the diagnosis of infectious diseases. Part of the Group is also devoted to the development of experimental models in infectious pathology, the study of the molecular mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance, and on the assessment of the antimicrobial activity of new drugs. Our historical focus is on respiratory pathogens, especially *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and opportunistic mycobacteria. Additionally, other research lines leaded by different group members, such as molecular virology, pathogenesis of viral infection, immunology of inflammation and new bacterial anti-inflammatory molecules, as well as epidemiology and public health of communicable diseases, have acquired more relevance over the last decade.

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- ✓ Hernández A. Virus Zika. Revista del Colegio de Biólogos. 2016; 26: 12-16

Retrovirus and zoonosis Study Group

Members. Dr/es

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G Navarro	M Vaqueiro
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L Falgueras	J Castella
S. Capilla	A Ortuño
O. Cuevas	



Research

The WHO defines zoonosis as "any disease naturally transmitted from animals to humans or vice versa." The research team began working on this line in 1980, coinciding with a significant increase of cases of February Botonous Mediterranean FBM (Rickettsia conorii). Currently the research team covers all fields: veterinary diagnosis, epidemiological, clinical and therapeutic. The main diagnostic difficulty is that most etiological agents are intracellular. This hampers the diagnosis. We have worked on the application of serological tests and culture technique "shell-vial." Currently we are working on a new line of research on molecular techniques. On the other hand, we also carry out research into HIV/AIDS, particularly immunological studies in HIV+ patients older than 50 years, we collaborate with national and international cohorts and participate in clinical trials.

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Genome Instability and DNA Repair Group

Members

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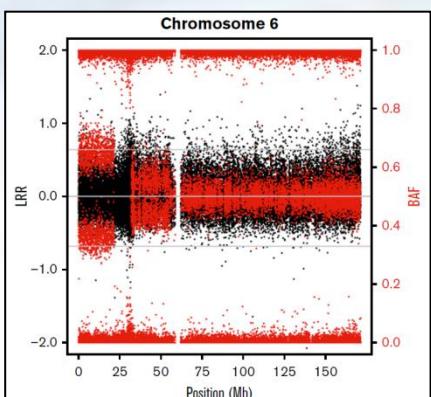
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Research

Our research interests are cancer-prone genetic syndromes with defective DNA repair with special focus in Fanconi anemia. We also investigate the genetics of familiar cancer syndromes and perform therapeutic research including gene and cell therapy approaches and cell-based drug screening platforms. A long term goal is to understand the mechanisms that maintain genome stability and protect us from disease, cancer, and ageing.

Publications 2016

- ✓ Judith Reina-Castillón, Roser Pujol, Marcos López-Sánchez, Benjamín Rodríguez-Santiago, Miriam Aza-Carmona, Juan Ramón González, José Antonio Casado, Juan Antonio Bueren, Julián Sevilla, Isabel Badell, Albert Català, Cristina Beléndez, María Ángeles Dasí, Cristina Díaz de Heredia, Jean Soulier, Detlev Schindler, Luis Alberto Pérez-Jurado, Jordi Surrallés (2016) Detectable clonal mosaicism in blood as biomarker of cancer risk in Fanconi anemia. *Blood Advances* (in press).

Genomics, Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Biology Group (GBBE)

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Dra. Raquel Egea

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Dra. Marta Puig

Dra. Magdalena Gayà

Nuria Rius

Andrea Acurio

Valèria Romero

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David Vicente

Carla Giner

David Castellano

Sergio Villatoro

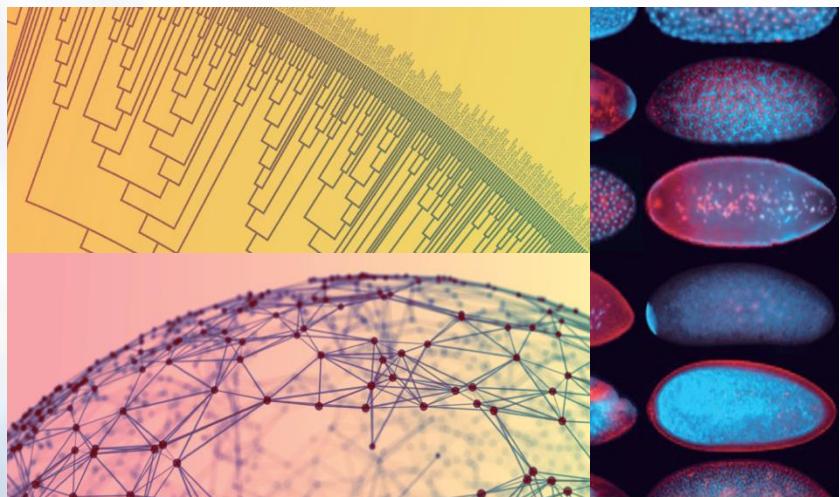
David Izquierdo

Miguel Brun-Usan

Miquel Marin-Riera

Sergi Hervás

Isaac Noguera



Research

Our research field is Evolutionary Biology, a complex historical process that accounts for the current Biodiversity on earth. We seek to understand the mechanisms that generate diversity patterns at several levels: geographical, phenotypical, chromosomal and nucleotide level. Our multidisciplinary team includes researchers with diverse expertise that use different but complementary approaches: from experimental and field work to bioinformatics and modelization. Besides, our experimental work makes use of two different species as model systems: *Drosophila* and humans. We are engaged in projects of comparative genomics in *Drosophila*, adaptation of *Drosophila* populations to global climate change, genome-wide analyses of nucleotide and structural variability in a large set of *Drosophila* lines, modelization of the genotype-phenotype map, and functional and evolutionary impact of inversions in the human genome.

Publications 2016

Castellano D, Coronado-Zamora M, Campos JL, Barbadilla A, Eyre-Walker A. 2016. Adaptive Evolution Is Substantially Impeded by Hill-Robertson Interference in *Drosophila*. *Mol Biol Evol* 33(2):442-55.

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Publications 2016 (cont.)

Rius N, Guillén Y, Delprat A, Kapusta A, Feschotte C, Ruiz A. 2016. Exploration of the *Drosophila buzzatii* transposable element content suggests underestimation of repeats in *Drosophila* genomes. *BMC Genomics* 17:344.

Romero-Soriano V, Burlet N, Vela D, Fontdevila A, Vieira C, García Guerreiro MP. 2016. *Drosophila* Females Undergo Genome Expansion after Interspecific Hybridization. *Genome Biol Evol*. 8(3):556-61.

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Vicente-Salvador D, Puig M, Gayà-Vidal M, Pacheco S, Giner-Delgado C, Noguera I, Izquierdo D, Martínez-Fundichely A, Ruiz-Herrera A, Estivill X, Aguado C, Lucas-Lledó JI, Cáceres M. 2016. Detailed analysis of inversions predicted between two human genomes: errors, real polymorphisms, and their origin and population distribution. *Hum Mol Genet*. 2016 Dec 26. pii: ddw415. doi: 10.1093/hmg/ddw415. [Epub ahead of print]

Mutagenesis Group

Members

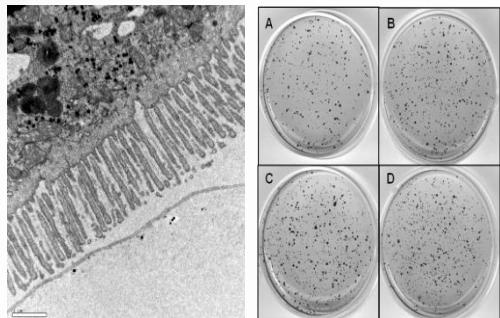
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Dr. Noel Xamena
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Dra. Susana Pastor
Dra. Alba Hernández
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Research



Our team works on the following topics: (i) molecular mechanisms involved in the genotoxicity/carcinogenicity of arsenic, using long-term exposures and environmental relevant doses; (ii) In vitro and in vivo models to determine the genotoxic/carcinogenic risk of nanomaterial exposures and their uptake through intestinal barriers; (iii) Genomic instability in patients suffering from chronic renal pathologies, and procedures to ameliorate genotoxic risk; and (iv) Genetic basis of thyroid cancer and molecular description of candidate genes.

Publications 2016

- ✓ Rubio L., B. Annangi, L. Vila, A. Hernández, R. Marcos. Antioxidant and antigenotoxic properties of cerium oxide nanoparticles in a pulmonary-like cell system. *Archives of Toxicology*, 90: 269-278 (2016).
- ✓ Carmona ER., C. Inostroz-Blancheteau, L. Rubio, R. Marcos. Genotoxic and oxidative stress potential of nanosized and bulk zinc oxide in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Toxicology and Industrial Health*, 32: 1987-2001 (2016).
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- ✓ Rubio L., N. El-Yamani, M. Dusinska, R. Marcos. Multi-walled carbon nanotubes (NM401) induce ROS mediated HPRT mutations in Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts. *Environmental Research*, 146: 185-190 (2016).
- ✓ Annangi B., S. Bonassi, R. Marcos, A. Hernández. Biomonitoring of humans exposed to arsenic, chromium, nickel, vanadium, and complex mixtures of metals by using the micronucleus test in lymphocytes. *Mutation Research-Reviews in Mutation Research*, 770: 140-161 (2016).
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- ✓ Corredor Z., L. Rodríguez-Ribera, E. Coll, R. Montañés, J.M. Diaz, J. Ballarin, R. Marcos, S. Pastor. Unfermented grape juice reduces genomic damage on patients undergoing hemodialysis. *Food and Chemical Toxicology*, 92: 1-7 (2016).
- ✓ Collins AR., B. Annangi, L. Rubio, R. Marcos, M. Dorn, C. Merker, I. Estrela-Lopis, MR. Cimpan, M. Ibrahim, E. Cimpan, M. Ostermann, A. Sauter, N. El Yamani, S. Shaposhnikov, S. Chevillard, V. Paget, R. Grall, J. Delic, F. Goni-de-Cerio, B. Suarez-Merino, V. Fessard, KN. Hogeveld, LM. Fjellsbo, ER. Pran, T. Brzicova, J. Topinka, M.J. Silva, P.E. Leite, A.R. Ribeiro, J.M. Granjeiro, R. Grafstrom, A. Prina-Mello, M. Dusinska. High throughput toxicity screening and intracellular detection of nanomaterials. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology*, 2016, doi: 10.1002/wnan.1413 (2016).
- ✓ Arribas J., T. Cajuso, A. Rodio, R. Marcos, A. Leonardi, A. Velázquez. NF-κB-mediated the expression of TBX15 in cancer cells. *Plos One*, 11: e0157761 (2016).
- ✓ Corredor Z., L. Rodríguez-Ribera, I. Silva, J.M. Diaz, J. Ballarin, R. Marcos, E. Coll, S. Pastor. Levels of DNA damage in peripheral blood lymphocytes of patients undergoing standard hemodialysis vs on-line hemodiafiltration: a comet assay investigation. *Mutation Research (GTEM)*, 808: 1-7 (2016).
- ✓ Recio Sánchez G., C. Lagos Castilla, N. Benito Gómez, A. García, R. Marcos, E.R. Carmona. Leaf extract from the endemic plant *Peumus boldus* as an effective bioproduct for the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles. *Materials Letters*, 183: 255-260 (2016).
- ✓ Annangi B., L. Rubio, M. Alaraby, J. Bach, R. Marcos, A. Hernández. Acute and long-term *in vitro* effects of zinc oxide nanoparticles. *Archives of Toxicology*, 90: 2201-2213 (2016).
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PhD Thesis 2016

1. Rius Camps, Núria. "Analysis of Drosophila Buzzatti transposable elements"
2. Castellano Esteve, David. "Estimación de la huella de la selección natural y el efecto Hill-Robertson a lo largo del genoma de Drosophila Melanogaster"
3. Corredor Mancilla, Zuray Fernanda. "Daño genómico como biomarcador de la enfermedad renal crónica"
4. Romero Soriano, Valèria. "Desregulació d'elements transposables en híbrids interespecífics de Drosophila Buzzatti i Drosophila Koepfnerae"
5. Marín Riera, Miquel. "Studying the genotype-phenotype map through general mathematical models of embryonic development and its application on tooth morphogenesis and evolution"
6. Vila Vecilla, Laura. "Desarrollo de un modelo in vitro de barrera intestinal para la evaluación del riesgo de los nanomateriales"
7. Brun Usan, Miguel. "Computational modeling of early cleavage in metazoans: the case of the spiral pattern"
8. Alaraby Abdalaziz Mohamed, Mohamed. "Biological effects of nanomaterials in Drosophila Melanogaster (diptera, insecta) as in vivo model"
9. Moreno Pujol, Eva. "Participació dels factors de virulència extraintestinal d'Escherichia Coli en la seva acció uropatògena"
10. Quesada Fernández, María Dolores. "Diagnóstico precoz de la sepsis y su implicación en el manejo clínico de los pacientes"
11. Molinos Abós, Sònia. "Noves aproximacions als estudis d'epidemiologia molecular i al diagnòstic de les infeccions causades per Staphylococcus Aureus. Aportacions al coneixement dels factors de virulència i patogenicitat"
12. Colom Comas, Joan. "Studies of the molecular features of three *Salmonella* phages for use in phage therapy and of encapsulation methodologies to improve oral phage administration"
13. Fernández Rivas, Gema. "Diseño y evaluación de nuevas técnicas de diagnóstico serológico y molecular para el diagnóstico de las infecciones de transmisión sexual"
14. Argente Viñals, Marc. "Epidemiología de la Carbapenemasa OXA-48 en aïllats de *Klebsiella Pneumoniae* a Catalunya"
15. Pons Anglada, Lluís. "Processos microbiològics aplicats a les unitats canines de biodetecció"
16. Larrosa Escartín, Mª Nieves. "Monitorización continua de la colonización por bacterias multiresistentes en una unidad neonatal de cuidados intensivos. Relación entre colonización e infección"
17. Vera García, Rodrigo. "Microbiología del caracol *Helix Aspersa Müller*. Aplicaciones biotecnológicas para su mejoramiento sanitario con impacto en su comercialización"
18. Molina Moya, Bárbara. "Usefulness of molecular methods for detecting drug resistance and genotyping in mycobacterium tuberculosis"
19. Serra Pladevall, Judit. "Neisseria Gonorrhoeae: monitorització de la sensibilitat antimicrobiana, estudi de la dinàmica poblacional i caracterització molecular de les resistències"
20. Sánchez Huertas, César. "Nanophotonic biosensors for Deciphering cell regulation pathways"
21. Cano Garrido, Olivia. "Production of protein nanomaterials in lactic acid bacteria for human and animal medicine"

PhD Thesis 2016 (Cont.)

22. Rueda Alfonso, Fabian Leonardo. "Self-structured protein nanomaterials produced in endotoxin-free microbial cells"
23. Mallén Alberdi, Maria. "Dispositius impedimètrics per a la detecció directa de microorganismes"
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