ANNA GONZÁLEZ-NEIRA

Human Genotyping Core Unit

Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas (CNIO)

SCIENTIFIC BIOGRAPHY

I studied at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, where I graduated in Biology, specialization Fundamental Biology, in 1995. I started my PhD project at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain) in 1996, working on polymorphisms in chromosome Y from both forensic and population genetic points of view. I received my Ph.D. in Medical Sciences in 2001 and was awarded the Thesis Prize. My PhD work was published in 10 articles. During my PhD period I was a research Fellow at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Department of Forensic Biology, New York University Medical Centre, and at the Institute of Pathology and Molecular Immunology (IPATIMUP) in Portugal. I started my postdoctoral period in September 2001 at the Unit of Evolutionary Biology, Universidad Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona under the supervision of J. Bertranpetit. As part of my postdoctoral research I held fellowships in the Sanger Centre Institute in Cambridge under the supervision of Panos Deloukas. Later, I moved to Oxford where I worked under the supervision of Lon Cardon, in the Welcome Trust Sanger Center (Department of Statistics). In October 2004 I joined the Human Cancer Genetics Program at the CNIO to head the Human Genotyping Unit, as part of the Spanish National Genotyping Center (www.cegen.org). My research activity at the CNIO has focused on the identification of genetic factors influencing cancer susceptibility and drug response. I have been participating in many association studies proposed by the International Breast Cancer Consortium and the International childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia Genetics Consortium

(IALLGC) to identify new low penetrance genes in breast cancer and lymphoblastic leukaemia. Regarding drug response, during these last years I have established the Spanish Pharmacogenetic Network for Pediatric Oncology focused on the identification of genes related to the cancer therapy efficacy and toxicities. My scientific career has allowed me to acquire a strong expertise in genomics, high throughput technologies, and data analysis, and has led so far to the publication more than 100 articles in different areas of investigation. I have also achieved significant experience in large scale international projects, and have extensive teaching experience.