

Short Curriculum Vitae

Catarina Brito

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C.Brito is the Head of the Advanced Cell Models Laboratory of the Animal Cell Technology Unit of iBET and ITQB-NOVA, since 2014. She holds a Biochemistry degree from the University of Lisbon and obtained her PhD in Biochemistry and Cell Biology with the New University of Lisbon. She pursued her PhD studies in the Laboratory of Glycobiology, at ITQB-NOVA (Oeiras, Portugal) and Institut Jacques Monod (Paris, France) in the areas of glycobiology and intracellular trafficking. During her PhD, C. Brito contributed to the elucidation of the role of specific protein carbohydrate moieties in human neuronal differentiation and neuronal trafficking and explored glycosyltransferases for synthetic applications. She joined iBET (Portugal) in 2007, first as a postdoc working in human Stem Cell bioprocessing, focusing on human pluripotent stem cell expansion and neural differentiation, and later as a Senior Project Manager of academic and industrial collaborations, bridging her cell biology and cellular biotechnology expertise to develop preclinical cell models and bioassays.

Current Research is mostly translational and focused on development of advanced human cell models (employing induced pluripotent stem cells and other patient-derived cells) to target deregulation of cellular microenvironment in disease progression and evaluate its role in therapeutic response. The main research targets are Central Nervous System diseases and Cancer (solid tumours); C. Brito is engaged in collaborations in projects on neural and hepatic toxicology and stem cell-based therapeutic approaches. Complementary to the research activities, C. Brito has been providing contract research services to the pharmaceutical & biotechnology industry in the areas of drug development and pre-clinical research.

CV Highlights: (i) 56 published papers; 5 book chapters; 1 patent submitted; *h*-index: 20 (ii) supervision of 13 PhD students (6 concluded), 12 Master students (10 concluded) and 8 post-doc fellows; (iii) Chair, Scientific Board of the Analytical Services Unit, iBET (2014-2018); (iv) Member of the Executive Committee and Coordinator of the Biopharmaceutical Technology Profile of MolBioS-PhD program in Molecular Biosciences; (v) Evaluation Committee member and expert reviewer of international and foreign granting organizations (JPND-EC, ANR, PlanCancer-France, FWO-Belgium, Research Councils-UK, Breast Cancer Now-UK, STW-Netherlands,); (vi) Referee of several international journals; (vii) visiting researcher at Harvard Medical School (September-November 2013); (viii) Scientific Merit Prize New University of Lisbon-2015.

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Web pages: www.itqb.unl.pt/research/technology/advanced-cell-models, <http://tca.itqb.unl.pt>, www.ibet.pt