



Molecular Bases of Disease Building Bridges between Protein Structure and Pathophysiology



Our slogan: "Precision medicine means structure-based medicine."

Structural Biology @Sant Pau – From Protein Expression to X-ray Crystallography



Clone, overexpress, purify and characterize definite domains of human proteins of interest.

Perform biochemical and biophysical experiments (from enzyme kinetics and Biacore to NMR and X-ray crystallography) to understand the function of these proteins. (Structurefunction investigations).

• Use state-of-the-art knowledge and software to predict protein structures, impact of point mutations / SNVs, etc. (Bioinformatics).

Some Success Stories – From Hemophilia to Prostate Cancer

Blood clotting and blood clotting disorders: Structural basis of factor V activation (Corral-Rodríguez et al., Blood 2011), analysis of F8 mutants identified in hemophiliacs (e.g., Venceslá et al., Blood 2008).

Androgen receptor (AR) and prostate cancer: Resolution of the 3D structure of the active, dimeric conformation of AR hormone-binding domain (Nadal et al., Nat Commun 2017). New avenues for antiandrogen design currently explored.

• <u>Lipid metabolism</u>: Structure-function analysis of APOA5 mutations found in patients with severe hypertriglyceridemia (Mendoza-Barberà et al., J Lipid Res 2013); identification of LRP1 domain critical for internalizing agLDL (Costales et al., JBC 2015).

What's Next: Current Projects, Challenges and Opportunities

Neurodegenerative diseases:

- Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), structural basis of exon 7 skipping from SMN2 transcripts (work in progress, Daniel Bravo grant). structure of PINK1 and relevance for Parkinson's disease.
- Other cancer-related projects:
- Structure-based classification of *TET2* mutations and SNVs; relevance for hematopoietic neoplasms (Bussaglia *et al.*, submitted).
- Impact of common LRIG1 SNPs on colorectal cancer treatment.

