



EU-LIFE Woman Postdoc Mentoring Programme

Short bios of mentors



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My scientific trip started at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona as a PhD student at Jorge Ferrer's lab (Spain). This is the first time I heard the word chromatin and I could never separate from it ever again. In my PhD, I studied the role of histone marks in spatially organising in the nuclear space genes relevant for an inherited type of diabetes using in vivo mouse models. During my postdoc at the NIH in Tom Misteli's lab (USA), my passion for chromatin exponentially increased when I realised that it can go beyond the DNA and also regulate RNA splicing. This seminal discovery allowed me to build my own research group in 2013 at the Institut de Génétique Humaine in Montpellier (France), where I continued to study the global role of histone marks in defining cell type-specific splicing patterns. By 2022, change knocked at my door again, and the lab moved to the Institut Curie where we are developing CRISPR epigenetic and RNA editing tools, to better understand the leading role of histone marks in establishing cell type-specific splicing patterns essential for the acquisition of novel phenotypic traits characteristic of pro-metastatic invasive cells.

So why am I doing this? In Montpellier I got the opportunity to become a mentor of first year female PhD students in a program called Women in Science. I realized that my role was not only to support you to gain self-confidence, but also to give you the space to express yourselves with no judgement and inspire you with new ideas. I liked it so much, that when I moved to Paris, I enrolled in the same program. I know you fear the lack of stability and private life from our job, but I am here to show you that it is possible, and YOU can do it too. So dare :)