

Biographical Sketch

Name: João T. Barata
Position: Research Group Leader
Workplace: Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes, Lisbon, Portugal

João T. Barata is Lab Head at *Instituto de Medicina Molecular*, FCT Investigator (Consolidator), and Invited Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon University, Portugal. He is a current recipient of an ERC Consolidator Grant (2015-2020) to study the mechanisms of IL-7R signaling in cancer. He graduated in Biology in 1996 from the University of Coimbra, Portugal. In 2003, João T. Barata completed his Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences, at the University of Porto, Portugal, as one of the first students of the GABBA program, after conducting research work at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA for several years. From 2003 until 2006, he was a Post-doctoral Fellow at Instituto de Medicina Molecular. During that period his work developed also at Pasteur Institute, Paris, France; and Utrecht University Medical Center, The Netherlands. In 2006 he established his independent lab.

João is Associate Editor of *Cellular Signalling*, ad hoc Section Editor for *Leukemia*, and reviewer for a number of international journals (including *Nature Medicine*, *Nature Communications*, *EMBO Molecular Medicine*, *Science Translational Medicine*, *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Blood*, *Leukemia*, *Oncogene*, amongst many others), and expert reviewer of grant applications for several science funding agencies including ERC and EHA; FWO and VLK (Belgium); Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance (India); CARIPARO, AIRC and ANVUR (Italy); Health Research Board (Ireland); Dutch Arthritis Association and Dutch Cancer Society (The Netherlands); Worldwide Cancer Research (UK) - of which he is currently part of the Scientific Advisory Committee; and FCT (Portugal). In 2007, he created, together with Dr. Peter Jordan, the annual meetings SINAL (on signal transduction) and he is currently a teacher of several postgraduate courses on oncobiology-related topics in different Portuguese Universities.

João's lab focuses on studying the signal transduction pathways that are deregulated in cancer by cell-autonomous lesions and microenvironmental cues. His work, focused on signal transduction and the characterization of novel mechanisms driving tumor development, has identified important genetic and posttranslational alterations promoting lymphoid leukemia, and has been published in journals such as the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, *Nature Genetics*, *Blood*, *Leukemia*, *Cancer Research* or *Oncogene*. João has been distinguished with three Pfizer Awards (2008, 2011 and 2014), one Pulido Valente Science Prize (2009), one SPI Best Immunology Paper Award (2012), amongst others; one vote of congratulations from the Portuguese Parliament to the quality of scientific research in Portugal recognizing the work conducted by his research team (2011) and one Medal for Distinct Services from the Portuguese Health Ministry (2013).