

Francisco M. Vega Bio:

Francisco M. Vega is an associate professor in the Department of Cell Biology at the University of Seville, where he leads the *Cancer Cell Biology* laboratory, and co-principal investigator in the *Pathophysiology of Neural Stem Cells* group in the Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla, Seville, Spain. His research explores the contribution of cancer stem cells to cancer metastasis in solid tumors. Francisco got his PhD in the Salamanca Cancer Research Center (CIC), where he characterized the regulation of p53 tumor suppressor activity by the kinase VRK1. From 2005 to 2011 he worked with Professor Anne Ridley at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and King's College London (London, UK) studying cell adhesion, motility and invasion controlled by the Rho family of GTPases and ROCK kinases. He has also worked as a visiting scientist in the Moores Cancer Center at University of California San Diego (2015-2017). Current works explore the cellular signalling connecting cell invasion and stemness in neuroblastoma progression. Francisco is also actively engaged in graduate and postgraduate teaching and in science advocacy towards society.