



VNIVERSIDAD
D SALAMANCA



CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



FICUS
Centro de Investigación del Cáncer

25 YEARS AT THE FOREFRONT OF CANCER RESEARCH IN SALAMANCA



anniversary

Dear Reader,

It is an honor to address you as the Director of the Centro de Investigación del Cáncer on the occasion of our 25th anniversary. This milestone marks a quarter-century of groundbreaking cancer research in Salamanca, a journey that began with a bold vision and has grown into an internationally recognized research center dedicated to advancing science and improving the lives of cancer patients.

Over the past 25 years, our accomplishments have been significant. With over 160.4 million euros in funding achieved during these years, we have driven impactful science, with 44.6% of our work ranking among the top 10% of institutions worldwide and 75.5% published in Q1 journals. Our efforts also have nurtured the next generation of scientists, training over 1,000 researchers and organized more than 80 public outreach initiatives and the visits of about 25,000 people to the Center. In addition, we have set up diagnostic units and clinical trials that have had a direct impact in the lives of cancer patients nationwide. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our faculty, technical personnel, administration staff, and students.

As we celebrate this milestone, we also look to the future. The challenges of cancer remain vast, but so too does our determination to face them. In this context, we aim at pushing the boundaries of discovery even further, translating research into real-world solutions and ensuring that science remains accessible to all. We also strive to make the Centro de Investigación del Cáncer even better in the forthcoming years through several initiatives: attracting young talent, improving our internalization and technical facilities, strengthening our training programs, and expanding the building to sustain our growth.

I invite you to explore this leaflet, which chronicles our history and highlights our achievements. Our goal, however, is that our next 25 years will be even better.

Sincerely,

Xosé R. Bustelo
CIC Director



THE CREATION OF THE CIC: A VISION ACHIEVED

The idea of establishing a cancer research center in Salamanca emerged naturally, given the Salamanca roots of many pioneering cancer researchers. Two fundamental research groups at the University of Salamanca (USAL) played a key role in this initiative: basic researchers from the Department of Microbiology and the Institute of Microbiology and Biochemistry, and clinical researchers from the University Hospital. Additionally, scientists from CSIC and other institutions expressed their interest in joining the project.

With the strong support of USAL Rector Ignacio Berdugo and CSIC President José María Mato, the 1996 agreement officially established the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Cancer (IBMCC) – Cancer Research Center (CIC). Their commitment went beyond just endorsing the initiative; they also secured the funding needed for its launch and the construction of a new research building. The Center was inaugurated in January 2000 in the presence of the Minister of Health, the President of Castilla y León, and the Secretary of State for Universities. Shortly after, artist Herrero de Terreros created and donated the statue that now stands at the entrance of the CIC building on campus.

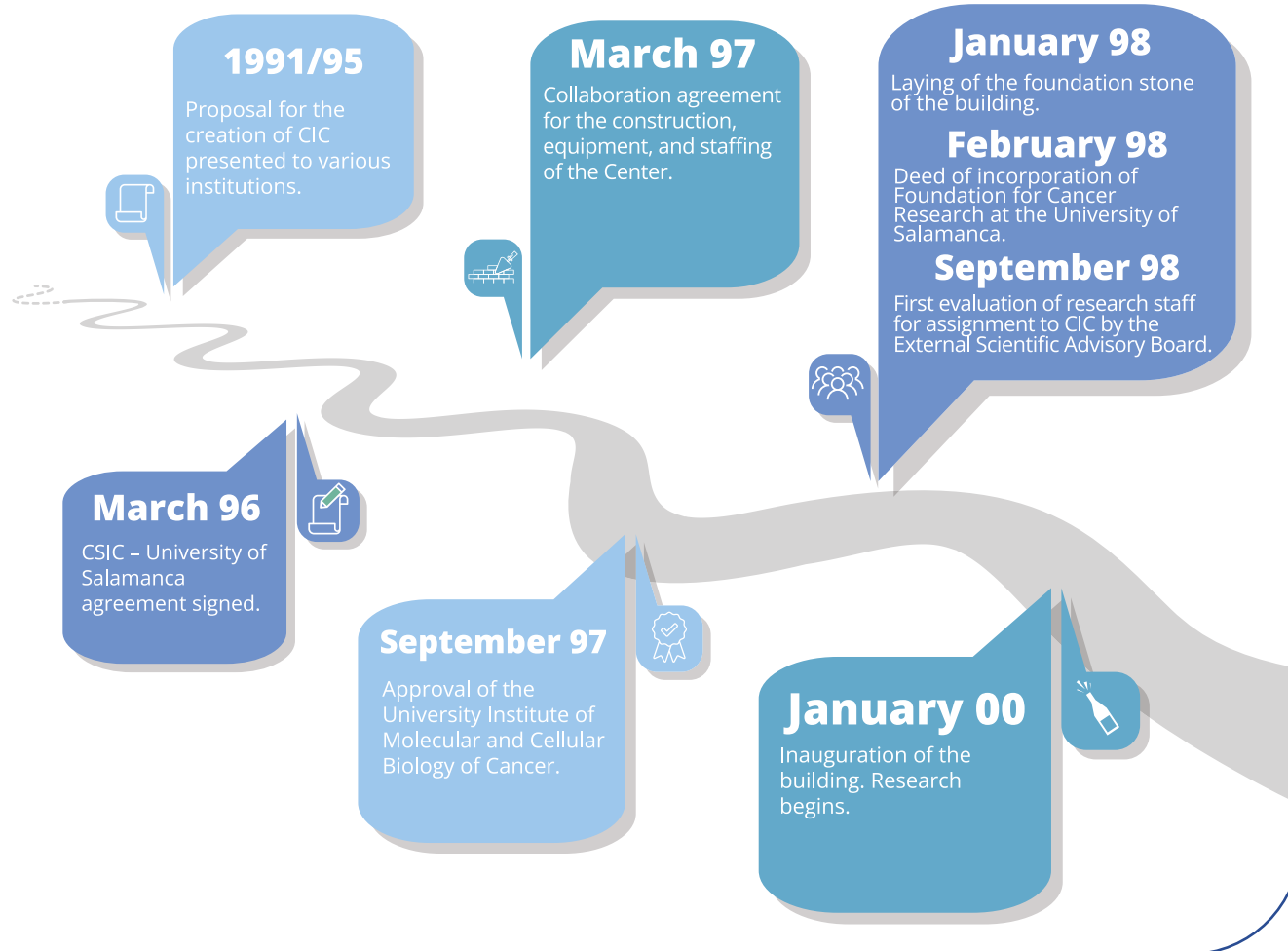
Since then, the CIC has become an internationally renowned cancer research center, thanks to its basic-translational research, cutting-edge technical units, and diagnostic services. This success has been driven by two key factors: (i) periodic evaluations conducted by successive members of our External Scientific Advisory Board, and (ii) a flexible and efficient management model made possible by the creation of the Cancer Research Foundation of the University of Salamanca (FICUS).

After 25 years of success, I can only express my deep gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this journey. The future of the CIC is bright, and I am confident that the next 25 years will bring even greater scientific advances.

Eugenio Santos
CIC Director 2000-2023



Important milestones at the beginning of the CIC



INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CIC

Catalyzers of the idea

- **Ignacio Berdugo**, Rector of University of Salamanca and President of the Foundation for Cancer Research at the University of Salamanca
- **José M. Mato**, CSIC President

Establishment and early years

- **Ignacio Berdugo**, Rector of University of Salamanca and President of the Foundation for Cancer Research at the University of Salamanca
- **César Nombela**, CSIC President

First Scientific Direction

- **Eugenio Santos**, Scientific Director
- **Xosé R. Bustelo**, Deputy Director

Founding faculty

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Avelino Bueno | • Alberto Orfao |
| • Xosé R. Bustelo | • Atanasio Pandiella |
| • Juan Jesús Cruz | • Jesús San Miguel |
| • Rogelio García Sarmiento | • Isidro Sánchez García |
| • Pedro Lazo | • Eugenio Santos |
| • Faustino Mollinedo | • Alberto Gómez Alonso (Clinical Associate) |

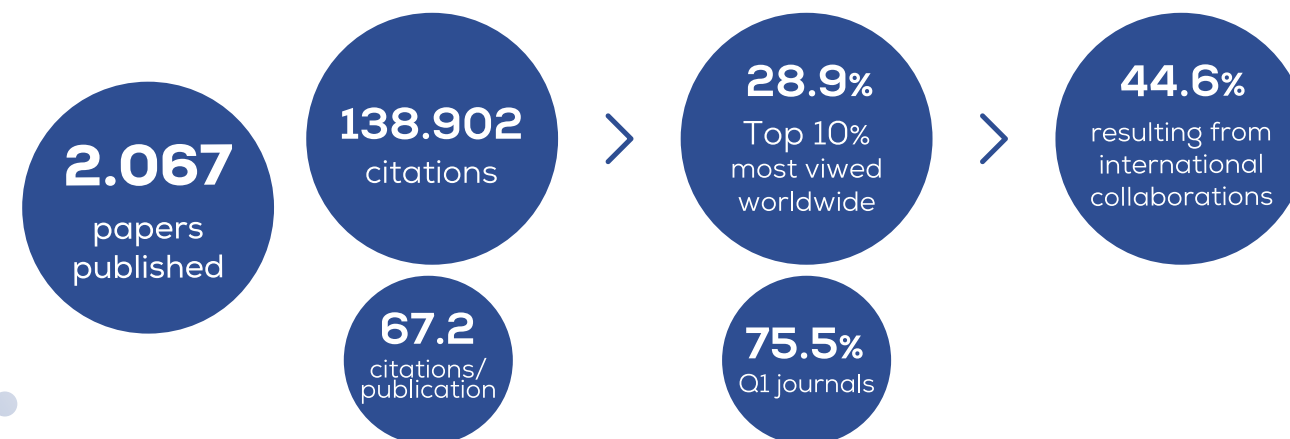
First External Scientific Advisory Board

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Elías Campo | • Julio R. Villanueva |
| • Abelardo López Rivas | • Ciril Rozman |
| • Carlos López Otín | • Eugenio Santos |
| • Alberto Muñoz | |

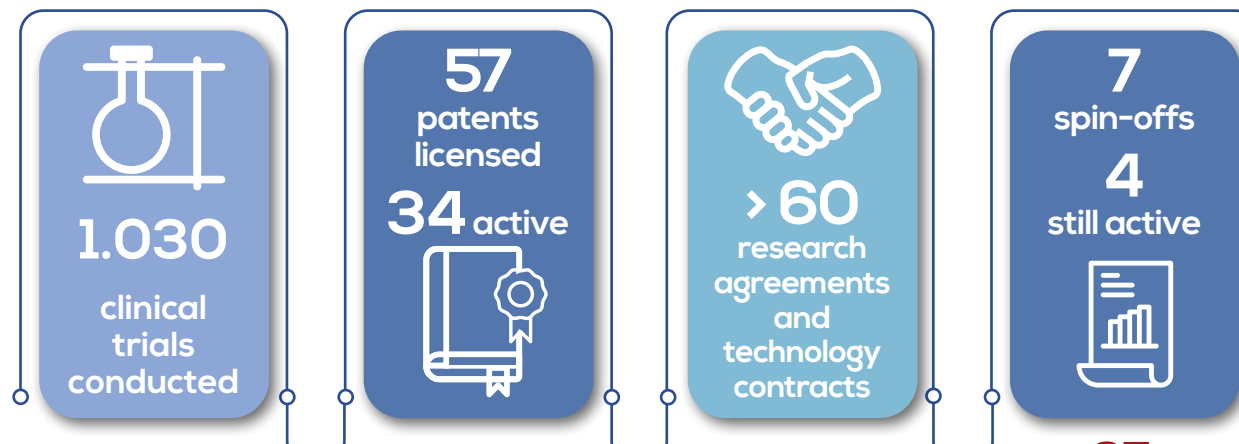
25 YEARS IN FIGURES – CIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we are proud to share the key figures that highlight our achievements and impact over the years on science and society:

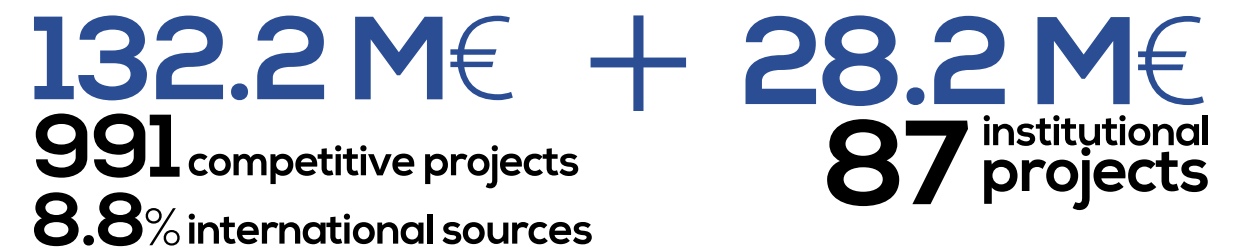
Driving impact: making science matter



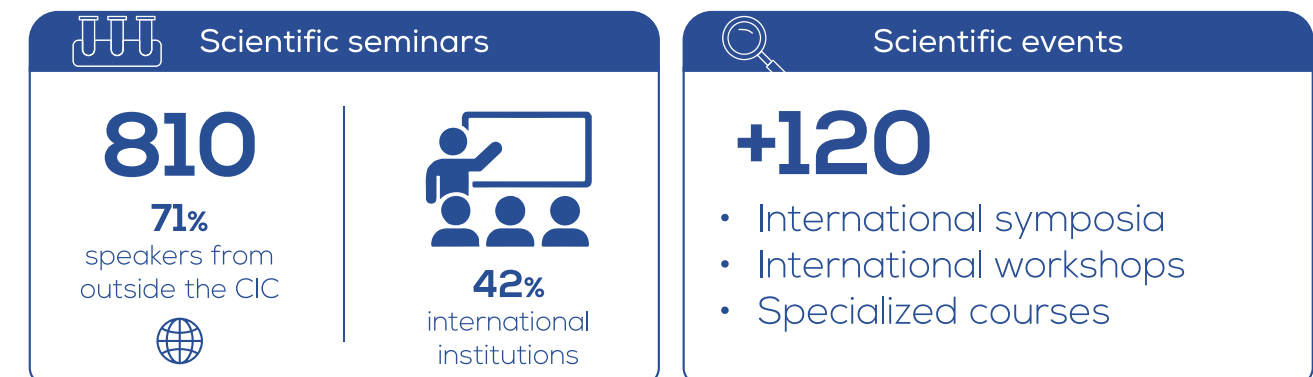
Translating research into real-world solutions



Fueling research: securing the future of cancer research



Fostering scientific connections



Attracting talent: shaping the future of research



Training the next generation of scientific leaders



429 PhD students

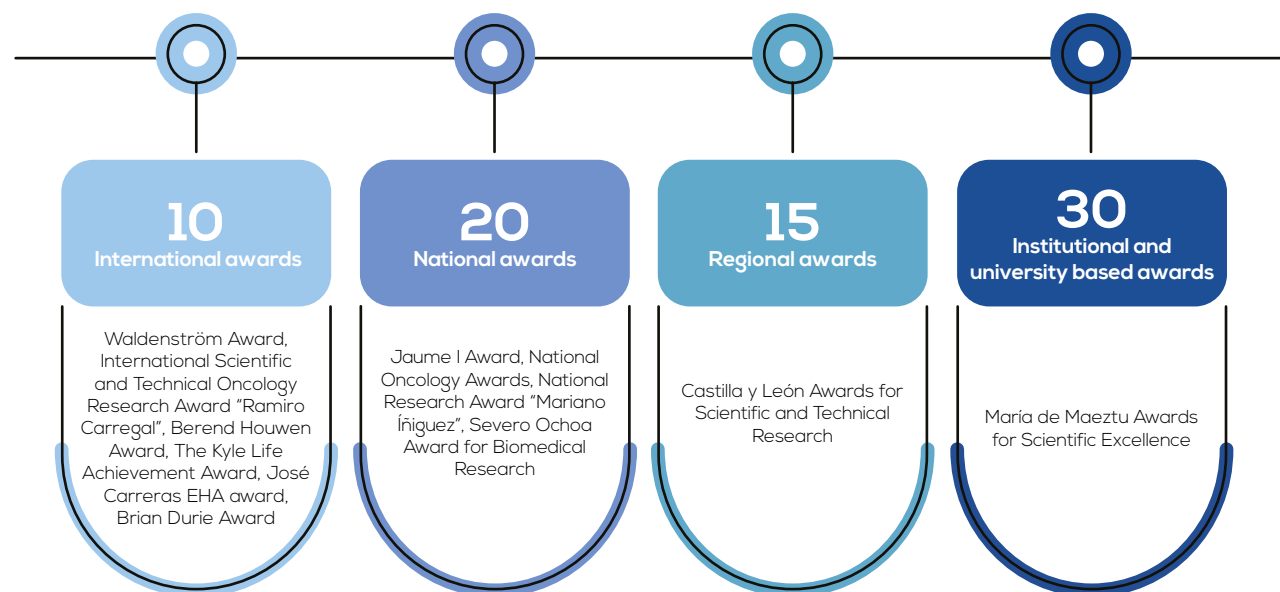


283 Master's theses

Our master ranks among the top 5 master programs in Biosciences by the "El Mundo" newspaper.

Recognizing Excellence: awards and recognitions for CIC scientists

Over 75 prestigious awards and recognitions have been granted to CIC scientists, including:



7 CIC researchers ranked as the World's Top 2% most-cited scientists by Stanford University.

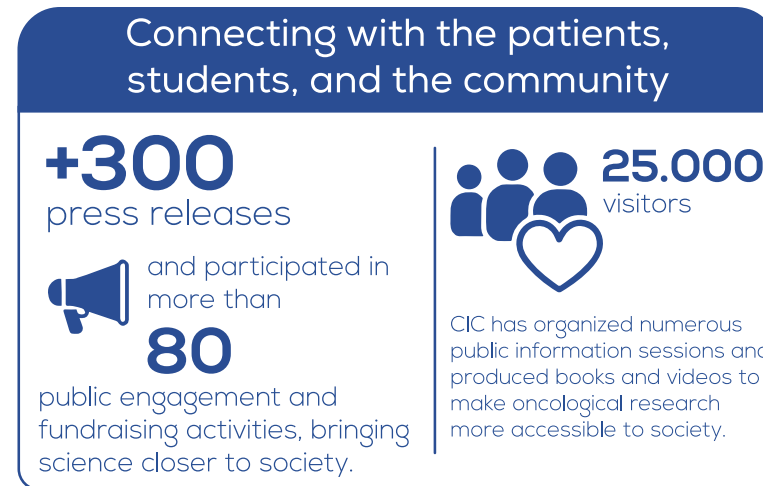
Recognizing pioneering cancer research: 'Doctores Diz Pintado' Prize

Thanks to the Doctores Diz Pintado Foundation, the CIC recognizes annually outstanding young Spanish researchers in the field of oncology.

2011	Manel Esteller – Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute, Barcelona
2012	Óscar Fernández- Capetillo – Spanish National Cancer Research Center, Madrid
2013	Eduard Batlle – Institute of Biomedical Research, Barcelona
2014	Joan Seoane – Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology, Barcelona
2015	Adolfo Álvarez Ferrando – Institute for Cancer Genetics, Columbia University Medical Center, New York (USA)
2016	Salvador Aznar Benitah – Institute of Biomedical Research, Barcelona
2017	Arkaitz Carracedo – Center for Cooperative Research in Biosciences, CIC bioGUNE, Derio
2018	Raúl Rabadán – Columbia University New York, New York (USA)
2019	Núria López-Bigas – Institute of Biomedical Research, Barcelona
2020	Iñaki Martín-Subero – Fundació de Recerca Clínic Barcelona-Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi i Sunyer, Barcelona
2021	José Tubío – Center for Research in Molecular Medicine and Chronic Diseases (CiMUS), Santiago de Compostela
2022	Héctor Peinado – Spanish National Cancer Research Center, Madrid
2023	Aleix Prats – Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi i Sunyer, Barcelona
2024	Marta Alonso – Center for Applied Medical Research, Pamplona



Making science accessible to all



A legacy of support



CIC has received **2.9** million euros in donations, a testament to the truth, generosity, and commitment of our community.

Our 25-year journey has been defined by scientific excellence, innovation, and commitment to scientific progress. As we look to the future, we remain dedicated to advancing cancer research and making a meaningful impact on society.

HOW WE STAND TODAY

At present, the CIC is advancing cancer research through:

9 M€ in funding from 53 competitive research projects

3.5 M€

in 4 institutional projects

202 ongoing clinical trails

Our commitment to quality and innovation



Center of Research Excellence Center

Recognized by our regional government.



AECC Center

Since 2018, our Center has been officially recognized as a center of excellence in cancer research by the Fundación Científica de la Asociación Española Contra el Cáncer.



University Institute

CIC is periodically recognized by ACSUCyL (Agencia para la Calidad del Sistema Universitario de Castilla y León) as University Institute, allowing us to organize University of Salamanca-sponsored master's and PhD programs.



Social-Health Cente

Accredited by the Ministry of Health of our regional government, allowing us to carry out diagnostic and health-related activities.



National Recognition in Science Communication

Our Communication Office is an official member of the national network of Scientific Culture and Innovation Units (UCC+I).



ISO 9001 & ISO 45001

Our units, services, and diagnostic services have renewed the quality ISO9001 & ISO45001 accreditations.



HR Excellence in Research Award

CIC, through FICUS, CSIC and USAL, holds the "HR Excellence in Research" accreditation by the European Commission.

300 professionals working at the CIC



207



99

TOTAL
306

R4 Lab Chiefs

67% 17 33% 8

TOTAL • 25

R3B Junior Group Leaders

100% 3

TOTAL • 3

R3A Accredited Researchers

67% 2 33% 1

TOTAL • 3

Senior Researchers

39% 7 61% 11

TOTAL • 18

Postdoctoral Researchers

27% 10 73% 27

TOTAL • 37

Ph.D. Researchers

30% 24 70% 57

TOTAL • 81

Lab Technicians

15% 4 85% 22

TOTAL • 26

Master Students

31% 11 69% 24

TOTAL • 35

Undergraduate Students

28% 5 72% 13

TOTAL • 18

Visiting Scientists

36% 10 64% 18

TOTAL • 28

Technical Support Personnel (Administration, Core Facilities, Diagnostic services)

27% 16 73% 44

TOTAL • 60

2 Research Programs

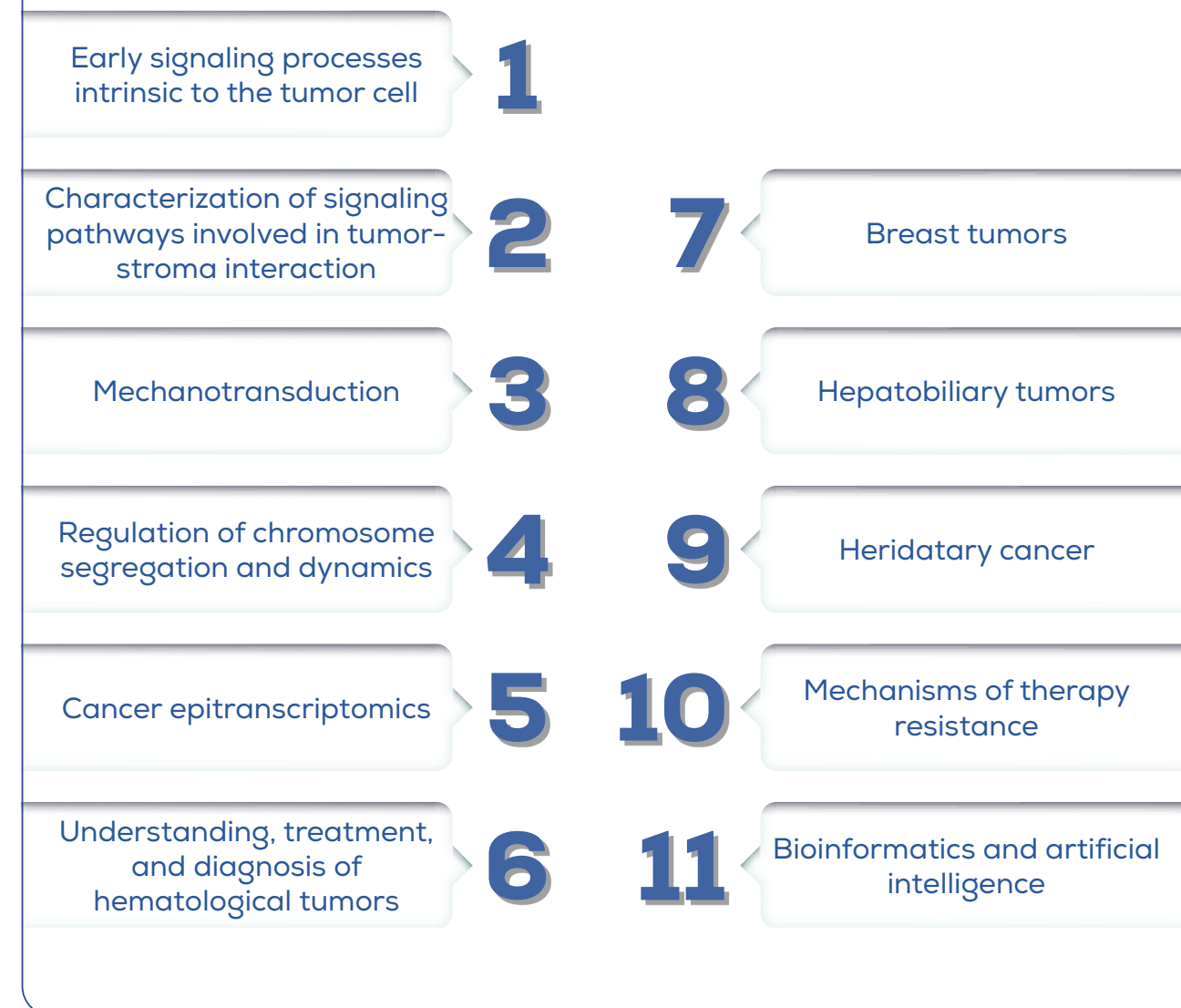
Molecular Mechanisms of
Cancer Program



Translational and Clinical Research in
Cancer Program



11 Research lines



Current institutional representation

- **Juan M. Corchado**, Rector of University of Salamanca and President of the Foundation for Cancer Research at the University of Salamanca
- **Eloísa del Pino**, CSIC President

Scientific Direction

- **Xosé. R. Bustelo**, Scientific Director
- **Alberto Orfao**, Deputy Director - Clinical Affairs
- **David Santamaría**, Deputy Director - Academic Affairs
- **María Sacristán**, Deputy Director - Training Programs

Current faculty

R4 – Lab Chiefs

- **Mónica Álvarez Fernández**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Sandra Blanco**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Avelino Bueno**, Univ. Salamanca Professor
- **Xosé R. Bustelo**, CSIC Research Professor
- **Esther Castellano**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Mercedes Dosil**, Univ. Salamanca Professor
- **Matthias Drosten**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Nuria Ferrándiz**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Rogelio González Sarmiento**, Univ. Salamanca Professor
- **Carmen Guerrero**, Univ. Salamanca Professor
- **Antonio Hurtado**, CSIC Tenured Scientist
- **Pedro Lazo**, Emeritus CSIC Research Professor
- **María Victoria Mateos**, Univ. Salamanca Associate Professor and SACyL
- **Alberto M. Pendás**, CSIC Research Professor
- **Alberto Orfao**, Univ. Salamanca Professor

- Atanasio Pandiella, CSIC Research Professor
- Jesús Pérez-Losada, CSIC Staff Scientist
- José M. Pereda, CSIC Staff Scientist
- Javier de las Rivas, CSIC Research Professor
- María Sacristán, Univ. Salamanca Associate Professor
- Isidro Sánchez-García, CSIC Research Professor
- David Santamaría, CSIC Staff Scientist
- Eugenio Santos, Emeritus Univ. Salamanca Professor
- Jacques J. M. van Dongen, FICUS Outstanding Scientist Contract
- Miguel Vicente-Manzanares, CSIC Tenured Scientist

R3A – Accredited Researchers

- Julia Almeida, Univ. Salamanca Professor
- Manuel Fuentes, Univ. Salamanca Associate Professor
- Jesús M. Hernández-Rivas, Univ. Salamanca Professor and SACyL

R3B – Junior Group Leaders

- José A. López-Domínguez, Junior PI – Univ. Salamanca, Ramón y Cajal Fellow
- Francisco Lorenzo-Martín, Junior PI – Univ. Salamanca, Ramón y Cajal Fellow
- Javier Vaquero, Junior PI – CSIC, Ramón y Cajal Fellow

Executive management

- Juan Pablo Clavero, CSIC Executive Manager
- Antonio Mata, FICUS Executive Manager

CIC Committees

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| • Recruitment Committee | • Seminars Committee |
| • Infrastructures & Sustainability Committee | • Ethics Committee |
| • Training Committee | • Equality Committee |



Current External Scientific Advisory Board

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Elías Campo | • Anne Ridley |
| • Jacqueline Cherfils | • Francisco Sánchez-Madrid |
| • Luis Paz-Ares | |

Technical Units

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Advanced Cellular Analyses | • Mouse Model Experimentation |
| • Bioinformatics | • Pathology |
| • Genomics | • Proteomics |

Technical Support Services

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Central Store Room | • IT support |
| • Infrastructure Maintenance | • Preparation of Laboratory Materials |

Diagnostic Services

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Cellular Diagnostic | • Tumor Bank of Castilla y León |
| • Cytogenetics | • Hereditary Cancer and Genetic Counseling |
| • Molecular Biology | |

Management and Administration Support Services

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Executive Office | • Purchasing Management |
| • Project Administration | • Training Program Management |
| • Project Management | • Communication and Marketing Office |
| • Human Resources | • Innovation Office |
| • Occupational Risk Prevention | |

More information about our history can be found at our scientific reports:



25 years of CIC in images



Construction of the CIC building, 1998



CIC building facade



CIC laboratory, 2000



CIC laboratory, 2025

We need your help to continue working on cancer!

The CIC works to create synergies among its basic, translational and clinical research groups to favor the rapid translation of new findings to the patients. However, we cannot do it alone. We need the involvement of everyone. If you wish to contribute to our activities, please fill up the information included below. No contribution is small! The important is contribute to our activities.

Your contributions will be transferred to the Foundation for Cancer Research at the University of Salamanca (FICUS), a non-profit organization that has been funded with the goal of supporting the research activities of our Center. FICUS works under the statutes established by among the entities regulated by the Spanish Law 49/2002, so your generous contributions can benefits from the tax regime of non-profit organizations and tax incentives for patronage included in the foregoing law.


Help us here:



Contact

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 +34 923 294 720

 cicancer@usal.es

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 [@ciccancer](https://www.youtube.com/c/ciccancer)

Discover the CIC

To know more about us, watch this video:





VNIVERSIDAD
D SALAMANCA



CSIC

CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



Cofinanciado por
la Unión Europea



Europa impulsa
nuestro crecimiento



Junta de
Castilla y León



fundación científica
asociación española
contra el cáncer

Centro acreditado 2024/2028

MaX
MARCO DE
AUTOEVALUACIÓN DE LA
EXCELENCIA
CSIC