

Cristina Marquez

Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, CNC-UC, Coimbra. Portugal



The main goal of my career is to understand how changes in molecular networks in the brain modify neural circuits to allow social decision-making in health and disease. For this, we always start with behaviour. We design novel behavioural paradigms that allow for a precise understanding and dissection of behavioural processes, and that allow for the study of the neural computations involved. To address these

questions, our research builds on a strong systems neuroscience perspective complemented with highly quantitative and innovative approaches to behavior.

My career as Principal Investigator started 8 years ago in Spain (Instituto de Neurociencias de Alicante), after postdoctoral periods at prestigious international centres such as the Brain Mind Institute, EPFL, Switzerland (mentor: Carmen Sandi) or the Champalimaud foundation, Portugal (mentor: Marta Moita). Recently, I have been appointed as ERA Chair holder, and moved my laboratory from Spain to CNC-UC in Portugal. These prestigious and highly competitive grants are awarded by the European Commission and aim to strengthen research capabilities in widening countries.

EBBS has been accompanying my science since my early years. My first scientific meeting was a joint one between EBBS and EBPS in Marseille, September 2011. In the last years, I have been one of the usual faces contributing to the scientific program of our society. Now, I feel I can contribute further by continuing to promote scientific excellence and developing further open source and collaborative initiatives.