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WORK EXPERIENCE

Champalimaud Foundation – Lisbon , Portugal

City: Lisbon | Country: Portugal

Biomedical Scientist | Digital Pathology

[02/11/2022 – Current]

Collaboration in the implementation, optimization, and dissemination of best practices in digital pathology workflows, and in close interaction with multidisciplinary teams to support diagnostic and research activities. Collaboration in an international research project with PreciseDX, a start-up based at Mount Sinai (New York), contributing to the development and validation of artificial intelligence algorithms applied to digital pathology. Provision of scientific and technical support to research projects carried out at the Champalimaud Foundation, particularly within the fields of translational and experimental pathology.

Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca – Amadora, Portugal

City: Amadora | Country: Portugal

Voluntary Internship in Anatomical Pathology

[09/01/2022 – 01/07/2022]

Reception, registration and preparation of samples; macroscopy of biopsies and assistance to macroscopic examination; processing of samples using Leica Peloris and Sakura Tissue-TEK® VIP®6 equipment; paraffin embedding of specimens; microtomy of large specimens; Hematoxylin-Eosin staining and mounting of slides using Leica ST5020 and CV5030 equipment, respectively; quality control of specimens and biopsies; and archive and biopsy management. Processing of cytological samples.

Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca – Amadora , Portugal

City: Amadora | Country: Portugal

Biomedical Scientist

[20/06/2021 – 31/10/2022]

Collection of biological products, including oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal samples for COVID-19 testing, and performing rapid diagnostic tests for COVID-19 in hospital emergency department. Use of the APPOLO software for request integration, sample triage, and result entry. Routine collection and reception of biological samples.

SYNLAB - Hospital de Cascais Dr. José de Almeida – Cascais , Portugal

City: Cascais | Country: Portugal

Biomedical Scientist

[26/01/2020 – 17/06/2021]

Collection of biological products, including oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal samples for COVID-19 research. Haematological, biochemical, immunological and microbiological analysis of biological products such as blood, urine, cerebrospinal fluid, among others. Biopathological validation of analytical results according to the patient's clinical condition, in an emergency context, and technical validation on a routine basis, using the APPOLO computer program. Responsible for Dimension EXL and previously BCS XP equipment. Maintenance of the different equipment and respective quality control. Interpretation and validation of quality control.

 **Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust** – Manchester, United Kingdom

City: Manchester | Country: United Kingdom

Medical Laboratory Assistant

[26/10/2019 – 18/12/2019]

Reception of gynecological cytology samples.

 **Hospital Lusíadas Lisboa** – Lisbon , Portugal

City: Lisbon | Country: Portugal

Trainee in Histology

[26/05/2019 – 20/06/2019]

Reception and processing of histology samples: assistance in receiving anatomopathological samples and in macroscopy; processing of samples using Leica TP1020 and Leica ASP6025 equipment; paraffin embedding; microtomy; Hematoxylin-Eosin staining using Leica ST5010 Autostainer XL equipment; manual histochemical staining; mounting of slides using Leica CV5030 equipment; archive of slides and blocks. Reception and processing of cytology samples.

 **Hospital Garcia de Orta** – Almada, Portugal

City: Almada | Country: Portugal

Trainee in Gynecological Cytology

[28/04/2019 – 23/05/2019]

Reception and processing of cytology samples: HPV testing using the Panther® system; processing of samples in Thin Prep® using the Thin Prep® 5000 System; automatic Papanicolaou staining using the HistoTek SL Automated Slide Stainer. Screening of gynecological cytology samples.

 **Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca** – Amadora , Portugal

City: Amadora | Country: Portugal

Trainee in Immunohistochemistry

[17/03/2019 – 11/04/2019]

Manual protocols on histology and cytology samples, using the direct, indirect, avidin-biotin and polymer methods. Manual multiple-labeling protocols. Execution of immunofluorescence protocols. Operationalization of the BOND-III equipment. Immunohistochemical quality control.

 **Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM)** – Lisboa

City: Lisboa

Trainee in Histopathology Applied to Research

[28/10/2018 – 22/11/2018]

Reception and processing of histological samples from animal models (rat, mouse and zebrafish): assistance in the reception of samples and the macroscopy; embedding in paraffin and gelatine; microtomy; manual Hematoxylin-Eosin staining; manual mounting of slides; archive of slides and paraffin blocks.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Master in Experimental Pathology

Faculty of Medicine of Coimbra [10/2022 – 10/2023]

City: Coimbra | Country: Portugal | Website: <https://www.uc.pt/fmuc/ensino/masters/mpe/> | Field(s) of study: Health and welfare | Final grade: 17 | Level in EQF: EQF level 7 | Thesis: Implantable Electronic Tattoos For Continuous Tissue Monitoring: Biocompatibility Assessment

Bachelor in Biomedical Laboratory Sciences

Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde de Lisboa [09/2015 – 09/2019]

City: Lisbon | Country: Portugal | Website: <https://www.estesl.ipl.pt/estudar/licenciaturas/ciencias-biomedicas-laboratoriais> | Final grade: 15 | Level in EQF: EQF level 6 | Thesis: Using less than 10% formalin fixed tissue samples in vimentin immunohistochemical detection possible impact on oncobiological analysis.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Portuguese

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING B2 **READING** B2 **WRITING** B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

PUBLICATIONS

[2025]

Aberrant E-cadherin Expression in Lobular Carcinoma In Situ

E-cadherin (E-cad) immunohistochemistry is commonly used to distinguish lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS) from ductal carcinoma in situ in histologically uncertain or ambiguous cases. Although most LCIS cases show an absence of E-cad expression on the neoplastic cell membranes, some show aberrant E-cad expression which can lead to diagnostic confusion. Awareness and understanding of the frequency, patterns, and distribution of aberrant E-cad staining in LCIS is crucial to achieving a correct diagnosis. We studied 55 LCIS cases diagnosed on core needle biopsy, classified each case by WHO subtype (classic, pleomorphic, or florid), and evaluated the frequency and patterns of aberrant E-cad expression using 3 different E-cad antibodies targeting the N-terminal (N), extracellular (EC), and C-terminal domains (C). Aberrant E-cad expression in one or more of the E-cad domains was identified in 17 cases (31%) and was significantly more frequent among LCIS variants (10/19, 56%) than among classic cases (7/36, 19.4%) ($P=0.02$). Among these 17 cases, aberrant E-cad expression was seen for all 3 domains in 10 cases, for EC+C in 4, for EC+N in 2, and for N only in 1. These results indicate that about one-third of cases of LCIS can show aberrant E-cad expression, that this is more common in variants than classic types of LCIS, and that this may be seen in different E-cad domains, most often in combination. These different patterns of aberrant E-cad expression may reflect different mechanisms of E-cad alterations in LCIS, the underlying nature of which merits further studies...

Authors: Rita Canas-Marques; Ana Blanca; Raquel Graça-Lopes; Inês Carvalho; David G. Pinto; Maria Antónia Vasconcelos; Antonio Lopez-Beltran; Isabel Fonseca | **Journal Name:** The American Journal of Surgical Pathology | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** Volume 49, Issue 4, 372-380

DOI: 10.1097/pas.0000000000002361

NETWORKS & MEMBERSHIPS

[05/2017 – 12/2019] Lisbon

Member of the Pedagogical Council of the Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde de Lisboa

[2023 – Current]

Member of the National Board of BioMedLab - Portuguese Association of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Seminars

CIMAGO Seminar - Challenges in Oncology (2020)

Conferences

II Congress of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences
UK NEQAS - ICC and ISH Autumn Conference 2018
20th Technical Congress of Anatomical Pathology
XXII Technical Congress of Anatomical Pathology
I BioMedLab Congress (member of the organizing committee)
9TH DIGITAL PATHOLOGY & AI CONGRESS: USA
II BioMedLab Congress (member of the organizing committee)
XXIV Technical Congress of Anatomic Pathology
III BioMedLab Congress (member of the organizing committee)

COURSES

Digital Pathology Certificate

Certified by the National Society for Histotechnology.

[27/10/2023 – 29/10/2023]

Introduction to Image Analysis in Digital Pathology with QuPath

The course content included: image pre-processing (filtering, noise reduction); color deconvolution; segmentation (tissues, regions of interest), morphological operators; morphometry and area measurements; counting cells and other morphological elements; exporting results.

[01/06/2023 – 02/06/2023]

Introduction to QuPath - 2nd Edition

Course organized by the Gulbenkian Science Institute. The aim of this course was to provide a theoretical and practical introduction to the free, open-source QuPath software for analyzing digital pathology images.

PRESENTATIONS

[22/03/2025 – 27/03/2025]

Mitotic Count in Breast Carcinoma – are there differences between Microscope vs Digital assessment?

Presentation of the poster “Mitotic Count in Breast Carcinoma - are there differences between Microscope vs Digital assessment?” at the USCAP 114th Annual Meeting and published in the Abstract Book of this congress (DOI: 10.1016/j.labinv.2024.102379).

Authors: Raquel Graca-Lopes; Carlos Faria; Marco Pereira; Sofia Lérias; Leonardo Lordello; Rafaela Lima-Rego; Maria Brito; Mireia Castillo-Martin; Rita Canas-Marques.

[07/03/2025 – 09/03/2025]

Gynecological Cytology: A Challenge for Digital Pathology

Co-author of the oral communication “Gynecological Cytology: A Challenge for Digital Pathology”, presented at the III BioMedLab Congress, held on March 7, 8 and 9, 2025, in Lisbon.

Authors: Inês Lino; Raquel Graça-Lopes and Marco Pereira.

[10/03/2023 – 12/03/2023]

Laboratory safety in Anatomical Pathology: is it feasible to use 2.5% Formalin in the routine fixation of histopathological samples?

Presentation of the poster “Laboratory safety in Anatomical Pathology: is it feasible to use 2.5% formalin in the routine fixation of histopathological samples?” presented at the 1st BioMedLab Congress, which took place on March 10, 11 and 12, 2023, at the Alfândega do Porto Congress Center.

[01/2020]

Using less than 10% formalin fixed tissue samples in vimentin immunohistochemical detection.

Presentation of the poster “Using less than 10% formalin fixed tissue samples in vimentin immunohistochemical detection: possible impact on oncobiological analysis?” at the CIMAGO Seminar - Challenges in Oncology, held at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Coimbra and published in the journal Medicine®.

Authors: Raquel Graça Lopes, Mariana Almeida, João Palma, Mário Matos, Carina Ladeira and Amadeu Borges Ferro.