

AIDA LOPEZ – CELL BIOLOGIST

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EDUCATION

PH.D. STUDENT/ UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, UVA/ 2026

Major: Neuroscience.

Concentration: Neuroimmunology.

BS BIOLOGY / UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DE VENEZUELA, UCV/ 2015

Major: Biology.

Concentration: Cell Biology.

RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, UVA/ US

Project Description: Studying the microglial-P2RY12 role in mediating a homeostatic microglia-astrocyte crosstalk involved in proper astrocytic interactions with the vasculature and normal neurovascular coupling.

Sponsor: Ukpong Eyo Laboratory, BIG Center, Neuroscience Graduate Program, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA. (Charlottesville, VA, US. Jul 2021-Present)

EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE INSTITUTE, IMEX/ ARGENTINA

Project Description: Investigating the role of the TAM pathway in Theiler virus infection, that produce a demyelinating disease used as an experimental model for the study of Multiple Sclerosis. I've been involved in other projects including the viral immune response of Macrophages to Junín Virus JUNV, etiological agent of Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever. Additionally, I've studied the formation of Extracellular Traps ETs from human Neutrophils and Monocytes/Macrophages in inflammation and infection.

Sponsor: Laboratory of Animal Viruses, Institute of Biotechnology and Molecular Biology IBBM, La Plata University UNLP, Advisor: Dr. Ricardo Gómez / Laboratory of Experimental Thrombosis, Experimental Medicine Institute IMEX, National Academy of Medicine ANM, Co-Advisor: Dr. Eugenio Antonio Carrera-Silva. (Buenos Aires, Argentina. Jul 2018, Jul 2021)

VENEZUELAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (IVIC)/ VENEZUELA

Project Description: Identification of point mutations in the voltage-dependent sodium channel's gene related to pyrethroid resistance in Anopheles sp. from Venezuela.

Sponsor: Immunoparasitology Laboratory, Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Research (IVIC), Advisor: Dr. Mariana Hidalgo. (San Antonio de Los Altos, Venezuela. Feb 2012, May 2015).

PUBLICATIONS

1. Gómez RM, López Ortiz AO, Schattner M. (2020). New roles of platelets in inflammation. *Current Opinion in Physiology*. Volume 19, 2021, Pages 99-104, ISSN 2468-8673. Doi: 10.1016
2. Gómez RM, López Ortiz AO, Schattner M. (2020). Platelets and Extracellular Traps in Infections. *Platelets*. DOI: 10.1080 / 09537104.2020.1718631.
3. Ferrer, M. F., Thomas, P. D., Lopez Ortiz, A. O., Errasti, A., Charó, N. L., Romanowski, V & Gomez, R. M. (2019). Junin Virus Triggers Macrophage Activation and Modulates Polarization According to Viral Strain Pathogenicity. *Frontiers in immunology*, 10, 2499.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2022: Peach Fellowship from the Biomedical Science Graduate Program BIMS, UVA.
- 2020: ALBA-FKNE-YIBRO grant to access the FENS 2020 Virtual Forum.
- 2018 - 2021: National Agency for Scientific and Technological Promotion ANPCyT (Argentina), Doctoral category.

LEADERSHIP

-CCIB 2021 Guest Lecture Committee, BIMS, UVA.

CONFERENCES ATTENDANCE & PRESENTATIONS

- 4th Americas School of Neuroimmunology ASNI Course. Ohio State University/ Columbus, OH, US. July 11-14, 2022.
- Altered astrocytic features in P2RY12 deficient mice. Aida O. Lopez, Joseph O. Uweru and Ukpong B. Eyo. BIG Symposium 2022, Washington University in St. Louis WashU/ St. Louis, MO St. Louis. April 25-26, 2022 (poster presentation)
- 1st Congress of Women in Bioinformatics and Data Science in Latin America, September 21-23, 2020.
- FENS Virtual Forum, July 11-15, 2020.
- Identification Of Point Mutations in The Voltage-Dependent Sodium Channel Associated With Kdr Resistance To Pyrethroids In Anopheles Sp. Circulating In Venezuela. López, A., Hidalgo, M,. Student Congress of Scientific Research and Development (CEIDEC). Caracas, Venezuela. October 2014. (Poster Presentation).

SOFTWARE LITERACY

- GraphPad
- R
- ImageJ
- Imaris
- FlowJo
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator

LANGUAGES

- English
- Spanish