

Pau Sancho-Bru Biosketch

I graduated in Biology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona in 2000. In 2001 I started my Ph.D in the Liver Unit of Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi i Sunyer (IDIBAPS), under the supervision of Dr. Bataller and Dr. Ginès. I obtained my PhD degree at the University of Barcelona in 2006. During my PhD I was mainly involved in the investigation of the mechanisms of liver fibrogenesis and the phenotype of activated Hepatic Stellate Cells and the role of vasoactive substances in liver disease. In 2001 I was granted with a short-term training fellowship from IDIBAPS to visit Dr. Brenner's laboratory in the Digestive Diseases and Nutrition School of Medicine, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA. In 2007 I joined the Stem Cell Institute Leuven at the Catholic University of Leuven (KULeuven), Belgium as a postdoctoral researcher in the group of Catherine Verfaillie. During my stay in KULeuven, I was involved in the investigation of the competence of pluripotent and adult stem cells to differentiate to the hepatic lineage and its potential to treat liver diseases. In 2008 I obtained hepatocyte-like cells from induced pluripotent stem cells and we showed for the first time that Hepatic Stellate Cells and Sinusoidal Endothelial Cells could be generated from pluripotent stem cells. In 2009 I moved to IDIBAPS, as a tenure-track researcher. From 2010 I have been conducting basic and translational research in the field of wound healing repair in chronic liver diseases, with special interest in the study of mechanisms of liver regeneration and the pathogenesis of alcoholic hepatitis. From 2014 I am Associate Editor for Journal of Hepatology. From January 2017, I am Junior Group Leader in IDIBAPS.