



Adrián Velázquez

In 1998 he completed his PhD thesis on protein adsorption at the University of Granada and in the same year he did a postdoctoral stay at Johns Hopkins University (USA). In 2004, he joined the BIFI Institute as a Ramón y Cajal researcher and, in 2008, as a researcher at the ARAID Foundation, focusing on biomolecular interactions for drug discovery. He obtained the position of full professor in 2021 and full professor in 2024 in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Zaragoza. He is currently head of the LACRIMA laboratory, dedicated to drug discovery.



Research profile

During his time as an ARAID researcher, he was recognised as an R4 researcher according to EURAXESS. His main lines of research focus on the structural and functional study of proteins of biotechnological and biomedical interest, the development of methodologies to study biomolecular interactions and functional regulation in biological systems, as well as high-throughput screening procedures for the search of new drugs.

Importance of his research

Proteins are key biomolecules in vital functions and can be targets for therapeutic treatments. Small molecules can be used to block proteins from pathogenic micro-organisms or deregulated proteins in the body. In the laboratory, relevant proteins are studied from a medical perspective and screens are designed to discover small molecules that interact with them. He has been involved in the discovery of drugs for hepatitis C, peptic ulcer, phenylketonuria, pancreatic cancer, Rett syndrome, chronic inflammation, colorectal cancer and COVID-19.

