

Claudia Istrate (*Curriculum Vitae*)



Personal information

Nationality: Portuguese (CC N^o: 30891079) and Romanian. Born on 14.11.1976.

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Languages fluently spoken: Romanian, Hungarian, English and Portuguese (French: basic-intermediate).

Academic profile

2007 PhD in Biology (Virology); Instituto de Tecnologia Quimica e Biologica (ITQB), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

2001 DVM, Degree in Veterinary Medicine, degree awarded by University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

1999 Teaching Degree (Biology and Chemistry), degree awarded by University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Professional experience

2015-until now- collaboration with Global Health and Tropical Medicine (GHTM), Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (IHTM), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (UNL), Lisbon, Portugal.

2016-2017 Co-founder of Bringobo.com, contribution to the website and product/business development.

2015 (March-September) Invited Researcher Virology Group, GHTM, IHTM, UNL, Lisbon, Portugal.

2014-2008 Researcher at the Virology Group, Medical Microbiology Department, Centre for Malaria and Tropical Diseases (CMDT), IHMT, UNL, Lisbon, Portugal.

2011-2009 during few months/year Visiting Researcher at Division of Molecular Virology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Linköping, Sweden.

2008-2007 Post-doctoral fellow, Division of Molecular Virology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Linköping, Sweden.

2005 February-July, Visiting PhD student at the Royal Veterinary College, London, UK.

2004 February-November, Visiting PhD student at the Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control (SIIDC) and Division of Molecular Virology, Linköping University, Sweden.

2002-2007 PhD student, 2nd Gulbenkian PhD Programme in Biomedicine (PGDB).

2001-PhD student, 2nd PGDB curricular year, Gulbenkian Institute for Science, Oeiras, Portugal.

Training abroad (participation in workshops based on awarded fellowships)

2014 Workshop on “Virus Evolution and Molecular Epidemiology “-Phylogenetic Inference-module, 25th-30th August, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.

2010 Workshop on: “New Approaches To Horizon Scanning For Emerging And Infectious Viruses In Europe”, 6th-7th July, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, UK.

2008 Short internship 1st-15th October at the Health Protection Agency, London, United Kingdom, “Training in molecular biology methods: rotavirus detection and typing”, EUROROTANET.

Awards and fellowships

2017-2006: Travel grants (11) for presenting research results at international conferences.

2015: Invited scientist fellowship (March-September) at the IHMT, UNL, Lisbon, Portugal.

2007-2001: PhD fellowship awarded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal.

2000: Romanian Government Research Studentship, Erasmus-Socrates Programme (3 months).

Scientific communications: over 50 (oral presentations, seminars and posters).

2017-2014 Formal invitation by the Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization (GAVI) and AFROROTANET to participate at the annual “African Rotavirus Symposium”.

2016 Formal invitation by the EDCTP to participate at “Stakeholders meeting on Diarrhoeal Diseases”, 5th July, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Researcher H-3781-2011 <http://www.researcherid.com/> orcid.org/0000-0003-4706-7598

Scientific Publications:

2018 Esteves, A., et al., Genetic diversity of norovirus in children under 5 years of age with acute gastroenteritis from Angola. *Epidemiology and Infection*, 2018: p. 1-7 doi:10.1017/S0950268818000377.

2017 C. Gasparinho *et al.*: “Characterization of rotavirus infection in children with acute gastroenteritis in Bengo province, Northwestern Angola, prior to vaccine introduction.” *PLoS One* 12(4) e0176046. IF=4.41.

2016 A. Esteves *et al.* “Molecular epidemiology of rotavirus in four provinces of Angola before vaccine introduction”. *Journal of Medical Virology* 88(9): 1511-1520. IF= 1.935, Q3.

2016 C. Gasparinho *et al.* “Etiology of Diarrhea in Children Younger Than 5 Years Attending the Bengo General Hospital in Angola. *Pediatr Infect Dis J* 35(2):e28-34. IF=2.72.

2015 C. Istrate *et al.* “High detection rate of G8P[6] rotavirus in children with acute gastroenteritis in São Tomé and Príncipe” *Archives of Virology* vol. 160, IF=2.282, Q3.

2014 C. Istrate *et al.* “Rotavirus infection increases intestinal motility but not permeability at the onset of diarrhoea. *Journal of Virology* vol. 88, no. 6, IF=4.69, Q1.

2011 M. Hagbom*, Claudia Istrate*, *et al.* “Rotavirus stimulates release of serotonin (5-HT) from human enterochromaffin cells and activate brain structures involved in nausea and vomiting. *Plos Pathogens*. 7(7): p. e1002115. IF= 8.057, Q1.

2008 C. Istrate, *et al.* “Parenteral administration of RF 8-2/6/7 rotavirus-like particles in a one-dose regimen induce protective immunity in mice”. *Vaccine* Aug 18; 26(35):4594-601. IF= 3.485, Q2.

2008 E. Johansson *et al.* “Amount of maternal rotavirus-specific antibodies influence the outcome of rotavirus vaccination of newborn mice with virus-like particles”. *Vaccine* 26, 778–785. IF=3.485, Q2.

2008 C. Istrate, *et al.* “Individuals with selective IgA deficiency resolve rotavirus disease and develop higher antibody titers (IgG, IgG1) than IgA competent individuals”. *Journal of Medical Virology* 80:531–535. DOI: 10.1002/jmv.21101, IF= 1.935, Q3.

2007 C. Istrate *et al.* “Bone marrow dendritic cells internalize live RF-81 bovine rotavirus and rotavirus-like particles (RF 2/6-GFP-VLPs and RF 8*2/6/7-VLPs) but are only activated by live bovine rotavirus”. *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology*, 2007, Jun; 65(6), 494-502. IF= 2.256, Q4.

2006 S. Kordasti *et al.* “Rotavirus infection is not associated with small intestinal fluid secretion in the adult mouse”. *Journal of Virology* 2006, Nov; 80 (22) 11355-61. IF=4.69, Q1.

2006 J. Rodríguez-Díaz *et al.* “Role of nitric oxide during rotavirus infection. *Journal of Medical Virology*, Jul; 78 (7) 979-85, IF= 1.935, Q3.

Publications in Portuguese (non peer-reviewed journals)

2017 C. Istrate *et al.* “Rotavírus e gastroenterite em crianças em África” *Jornal da Saúde de Angola*. Year 8 - Nº 81 June/July.

2012 C. Istrate *et al.* “Rotavírus, uma ameaça à vida das crianças nos países em vias de desenvolvimento” *Anais do Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical*, Vol.11, 1-201, ISSN 0303-7762.

2011 C. Istrate “Diarreias e vírus. Vacinas representam a melhor forma de prevenção” *Jornal da Saúde de Angola*. Year 2 - Nº 17 July.

Publication citing the epi- studies:

2015 Rudd, C *et al.* "Rotavirus landscape in Africa-Towards prevention and control: A report of the 8th African rotavirus symposium, Livingstone, Zambia". *Vaccine* 33: 3263-3267. IF=3.485, Q2

Book chapter

2009 K. Johansen *et al.* "Polyphosphazenes as Adjuvants for Inactivated and Subunit Rotavirus Vaccines in Adult and Infant Mice" chapter 1 "Vaccine Delivery and Immunomodulation" from the book entitled: *Polyphosphazenes for Biomedical Applications* (2009) ISBN: 978-0-470-19343.

Funded Projects (Financed projects as PI)

2017 "Enteric zoonoses of viral and parasitic origin in children and young animals in the view of" One Health, One Medicine". PN-III-P1-1.1-MCD-2017-0119. Short mobility project for a researcher with experience, funded by UEFISCDI, Ministry of Education of Romania.

2013-2015 "Norovirus infection and disease in Portuguese elderly: a glimpse on epidemiology and host genetics" PTDC/DTP-EPI/1222/2012. Funded by Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

2012-2014 "Aetiology of Diarrhoea in children under five at the Bengo General Hospital, in Angola". Funded by the Centro de Investigação em Saúde em Angola (CISA), Portugal. Principal investigator for virology section.

2012-2013 "Assessment of the etiology of infant viral gastroenteritis with focus on rotavirus infection in Huambo region, Angola". Funded by the Ministry of Health, National Public Health Institute of Angola.

2011-2012 "Rotavirus epidemiology and surveillance in the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe; molecular characterization of the circulating strains". Funded by Gulbenkian Foundation and the Institute of Marquês de Valle Flôr.

Financed projects as team member: (10)

Outreach activities: organizer of 2 international workshops in Portugal and São Tomé (2016 and 2014).

2016: Science Communication workshop. Participant

Teaching and Supervision: 2 completed Master Students and 5 internships /research fellows

2011-2014 Lecturer in master courses: "Tropical Medicine", "Medical Microbiology" and PhD Programme "Human Genetics and Infectious Disease", hosted at Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal.

2011-2014 Theoretical and practical training of laboratory technicians, health professionals, medical doctors in CPLP countries in laboratory methods to detect and characterize viruses causing gastroenteritis (with emphasis on rotavirus).

2013 Member of the Organizing Committee of the "IV Jornadas Cientificas of Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal.

2004 Organization of a Practical course given to students in order to start scientific research involving working with cell culture and viruses in P2 safety level laboratories at Division of Molecular Virology, Linköping University, Sweden.

National competitions (entrepreneurship): Acredita Portugal 2017- semi-finals

Hobbies: photography (1st prize in international competition organised during 4th Congress of Tropical Medicine by IHMT, UNL), marketing and communication in science workshops; IT business development tutorials, member of the Portuguese Society for Virology.