



Ana Paula Pêgo

Date and place of birth: 30th of September, 1973; Porto, Portugal

Academic degrees, fields of study, awarding institutions, dates

- Ph.D. in Polymer Chemistry and Biomaterials by the University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands, 2002
- Graduated in Food Engineering at the Biotechnology School – Portuguese Catholic University, Porto, Portugal, 1996

Present positions

- Assistant Investigator at INEB; Principal Investigator of the area of research on Non-viral vectors for nerve regeneration (Programme 3 – Biomaterials for Neurosciences)
- Lecturer at the PhD and MSc Programmes in Biomedical Engineering (Porto University), MSc of Bioengineering (Porto University) and at the MSc Programme in Biomedical Engineering (Aveiro University)

Main areas of research

1) Application of biomaterials in the field of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, with particular focus on neuroregeneration. The research on new biomaterials for application in neurosciences includes the development of new polymers for:

- The design of alternative vectors to viruses for efficient gene delivery;
- Modulation of cell response;
- Preparation of nerve grafts to use in nerve regeneration (3D scaffolds)

2) Societal and ethical issues that concern Regenerative Medicine and NanoMedicine.

Research projects and post-graduate training

- Principal Investigator of 1 national projects, financed by the National Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT). Participant in 7 other national and international projects with financial support from FCT, Gulbenkian Foundation and European Commission. For details check <http://www.ineb.up.pt/>.
- Currently supervises 3 post-doctoral researchers and 3 PhD students.

Public awareness of science

Coordinator of the Science Communication Programme of INEB. Has organized and participated in exhibitions, lectures and debates aimed at promoting scientific culture in society. Since December 2003 has been actively involved in the organization of INEB's initiative "Biomedical Engineering goes to School" in which visits to 3 high schools of Porto and to Centro de Ciência Viva of Vila de Conde are done every year to increase students' awareness for the field of biomedical engineering and science areas in general.

Membership of scientific societies

Member of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB), the European Society of Gene and Cell Therapy and the Portuguese Engineering Association (*Ordem dos Engenheiros*).

Organization of scientific meetings

Organizing Committee of 6 editions of the Advanced Course in Cell-Material Interactions.

Publications

Since 2001 author of 15 publications in international refereed journals and 1 patent. Author of more than 30 communications in international scientific events.

Awards

Portuguese Engineering Association Award (highest classification in 1996 at the Biotechnology School – Portuguese Catholic University)

Contact

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