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Studies: PhD student in Genetics
Specialization: Human Molecular Genetics

Short bio:

I am Núria Martínez-Gil and I come from Barcelona. In 2009, I started studying Mathematics at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, but found out that I am not interested in it. Therefore, I changed my degree to Biochemistry at Universitat de Barcelona, where I found my true passion: Genetics. In my final year project, I worked in the laboratory of Dr. Daniel Grinberg and Dr. Susanna Balcells, where I began to study gene variants of the Wnt pathway associated with Osteoporosis. Then, I undertook the Master of Genetics and Genomics at the same university and continued as a Master project focusing on functional variants of the DKK1, WNT16 and SOST genes. I am currently finishing my doctoral thesis in the same laboratory, carrying out functional validations of the variants or regions of interest that I found during my bachelor's and master's projects. For this purpose, I utilize gene reporter assays, chromatin conformation capture experiments, western blots, gene re-sequencing, etc. I am passionate about genetics and the bone, and my main goal is to identify new therapeutic targets, whether they are novel genes or new regulatory regions, in order to treat bone diseases.

What do you expect from this training?

- Share my research with colleagues and experts in the topic
- Learn more about the bone research
- Learn new strategies to discover genes responsible for bone-parameters

Bonus question: What motivates you to get out of bed in the morning?

What motivates me in my research is being one step closer in discovering new treatments for untreatable bone diseases or for the common ageing disease: Osteoporosis. This is my reason for doing research, but what really wakes me up in the morning is the alarm clock.