The R01 research proposal entitled “Characterization of the lupus nephritis miRNAnome” (PROFILE 4) was recently funded by the National Institute of Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (study period: 2018-2023). The PI of this project is Elizabeth E. Brown, PhD, Professor of Pathology of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The goal of this prospective investigation is to identify and characterize the contribution of microRNAs (miRNAs) in serum exosomes on the risk of, and rate of progression to, lupus nephritis (LN) among patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Recent advances in transcriptome sequencing offer new opportunities to characterize miRNAs as novel biomarkers, which could significantly change the paradigm of SLE clinical monitoring. We will test the hypothesis that distinct serum exosome miRNAs will correlate with the presence of, and time to, LN among patients with SLE and that miRNAs influence the severity and rate of progression of LN by altering target gene expression.

We intend to capitalize on a unique opportunity to explore these relationships in a large, ancestry diverse, well-characterized population of established SLE in the Genetic Profile Predicting the Phenotype (PROFILE) cohort. From 1997 to 2017 the PROFILE team has constituted a cohort that includes 3,118 SLE patients from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (Coordinating Center), Johns Hopkins University, Northwestern University, the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston, and the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus. Findings forthcoming from this investigation will fill a critical gap related to the disparate trends of SLE etiology and progression, which differ by ancestry, and may translate to other kidney phenotypes.
Jennifer Cabán-Rivera. Establishing an in-vitro Parkinson’s Disease model to assess possible relations with Dengue Virus infection through gene expression changes. 7th Annual Symposium of the RCM-UCC, Medical Sciences UPR, May 10, 2018.

José López de Victoria. Genes associated to Leucine Rich Repeat Kinase (LRRK 2) with gene expression change related to increased risk of Parkinson’s Disease. 14th Annual Scientific Conference of Ponce Health Sciences University & Ponce Research Institute, Complejo Ferial Ponce. May 19, 2018.

Paola Ramos. Common gene expression changes between Alzheimer’s Disease and Herpes Simplex Virus 1 infection: looking for relationships. 14th Annual Scientific Conference of Ponce Health Sciences University & Ponce Research Institute, Complejo Ferial Ponce. May 19, 2018

Xavier Rodríguez-López. Rb hyperphosphorylation leads to an impaired cell-cell adhesion in non-small lung cancer cells. 14th Annual Scientific Conference of Ponce Health Sciences University & Ponce Research Institute, Complejo Ferial Ponce. May 19, 2018.


Wilfredo Pedreira-García. Authenticity and Schizophrenia: Selection of common important genes and their correlated behavior. 26th Puerto Rico Neuroscience Conference, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico at Monsignor Vicente Murga Theater in Ponce. December 1, 2018

Rosenid Pérez-Quiñones. Effects of a Histone Methyltransferase Inhibitor in a Cytokine Profile from an In Vitro Model of Endometriosis. 2018 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), Indiana Convention Center. November 14-17, 2018

DISPONIBLE PARA APPLE Y ANDROID

Tropical Outdoor Triggers of Asthma & Allergies

Reconozca fácilmente los factores del aire exterior que pueden estar desencadenando de su asma y/o alergias.

Reporta específicamente esporas de hongos, pólenes de árbol, grama o maleza más comunes del aire de Puerto Rico.

Provee información de los niveles de esporas de hongos y pólenes de Puerto Rico.

Diariamente, los datos son actualizados por la estación de aeroalérgenos de San Juan acreditada por la Academia Americana de Alergias, Asma e Inmunología (San Juan AAAAI) ubicada en el Laboratorio de Micología, de la Escuela de Medicina del Recinto de Ciencias Médicas (RCM).
Presentation title:  
*Desarrollo Neuropsicológico en la niñez y la juventud: ¿Qué nos dice del comportamiento?*

**25 Participants**  
Organization Staff: 5 (38.4%)  
Organization Coordinator: 2 (15.4%)  
Organization Director: 1 (7.7%)  
Undergraduate Student: 1 (7.7%)  
Graduate Student: 1 (7.7%)  
Other: 3 (23.1%)

**Institutions**  
Community: 10 (76.9%)  
Outreach Institutions: 1 (7.7%)  
Other: 2 (15.4%)

**Self Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall, knowledge of the topics covered in the activity</td>
<td>Before</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>After</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evaluation Response Rate: 52.0% (n=13)  
Other participants include: research assistant, senator, and agency coordinator.  
Mentoring are the following institutions: UPR-MSC, UPR-RP. PUIs are the following institutions: UPR-Mayaguez, UPR-Humacao, UPR-Cayey, UMET, UNE, UTurabo, InterMetro, Inter-Bayamón. Outreach institutions are the following: Universidad Central del Caribe, Ponce Health Sciences University, Carlos Albizu University, Universidad Interamericana- San German, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, UPR Ponce or UPR Aguadilla.
Satisfaction

Overall activity
- 76.9% Very satisfied
- 5.4% Satisfied
- 7.7% Neutral

Activity facilities
- 92.3% Very satisfied
- 7.7% Satisfied

Organization of the activity
- 84.6% Very satisfied
- 15.4% Satisfied

Length of the activity
- 76.9% Very satisfied
- 23.1% Satisfied

Information presented
- 76.9% Very satisfied
- 23.1% Satisfied

We expect to continue these monthly activities with other topics: HIV, Cognitive development and violence, and others. If you are interested in participating please send your petition to Dr. Edna Acosta Pérez at ocre-prctrc.rcm@upr.edu