
Manuel Serrano - short biography

Manuel Serrano obtained his PhD in 1991 at the University of Madrid for research on DNA replication under the supervision of Margarita Salas (1). From 1992 to 1996, Manuel worked as postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of David Beach, at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (NY, USA). During this time, Manuel made his most important discovery with the cloning and characterization of p16 (2-4), which defined a new class of cell cycle regulators and was soon recognized as a key tumor suppressor. In 1997, Manuel returned to Spain as an independent investigator, initially at the National Center of Biotechnology, and since 2003 at the Spanish National Cancer Research Center directed by Mariano Barbacid. The main contributions of Manuel during these years have been related to the concept of oncogene-induced senescence as a tumor suppression mechanism (5), the role of p19Arf as an oncogenic sensor (6), the generation of novel mouse models with increased cancer resistance (7,8), and the identification of senescent tumor cells within premalignant tumors (9). More recently, Manuel's laboratory has discovered a cis-regulatory element at the p16 and p19Arf locus (10), has dissected the role of DNA damage and oncogenic signaling in p53-mediated cancer protection (11), and has reported the anti-aging and anti-reprogramming activity of the Arf/p53 module (12, 13).

Key references:

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