
SOFÍA DUARTE

CV

PARTICIPANT AT:

CONNECTING THE GROWING BRAIN UNDERSTANDING NEUROPAEDIATRIC DISEASES THROUGH SYNAPTIC COMMUNICATION

**November, 26th-27th, 2015, Barcelona**

Sofia Duarte, Neurologist, Clinical Researcher, Child Neurology Department, Hospital de Dona Estefânia, CHLC, Instituto de Medicina Molecular, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal

She received her MD from the Faculty of Medicine at Coimbra University, Portugal. During 2007 she completed the Neuroscience and Behaviour Biology Master from Pablo de Ollavide University, Spain. She became interested in biomedical and translational research during Neurology residence and then decided to become a Neuropediatrics specialist. She integrated the Neurology research laboratory at Hospital San Joan de Déu and developed a research project for the study of epileptic encephalopathies of the first year of life, using a cerebrospinal fluid proteomic approach. In 2011 she was admitted in the Programme for Advanced Medical Education of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. She obtained her PhD at Instituto de Medicina Molecular, Faculty of Medicine, University of Lisbon. She has been focusing her research on the characterization of synaptic disturbances that underlie neurodevelopmental disorders, in particular Rett Syndrome, Angelman Syndrome and epileptic encephalopathies of the first year of life.

B-DEBATE IS AN INITIATIVE OF:



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ABSTRACT

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Other Molecules involved in Synaptic Transmission and Disorders in Children

The synapse is the functional unit for neuronal communication. Mutations in genes that encode relevant proteins for synaptic functions are being increasingly identified in neuropediatric disorders. After describing relevant roles of neuropeptides, neuromodulators, and neurotrophic factors, this talk will be focused on synaptic dysfunction in Rett Syndrome. This disease is mainly caused by mutations in the MECP2 gene and can be classified as a synaptopathy, since it comprises simultaneously impairments in synaptogenesis, synaptic maturation and synaptic plasticity. New insights about these dysfunctions will be discussed and also therapeutic strategies to overcome them.

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