

Amaya Virós

Amaya obtained her degree in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Barcelona. She completed her training as a dermatologist and venereologist at Vall d'Hebrón University Hospital, Spain. She then obtained a Fulbright Scholarship to become a Fellow in the Department of Dermatology and Pathology at the University of California, San Francisco, in the laboratory of Boris Bastian. She then moved to Richard Marais' laboratory, first to the Institute of Cancer Research and then at the CRUK Manchester Institute where she obtained a PhD. Amaya has combined her research with clinical work as a dermatologist at St. George's Hospital in London, and Salford Royal Foundation Trust in Manchester. Her research has focused on the mechanisms driving secondary keratinocytic tumours in metastatic melanoma patients treated with the BRAF inhibitor vemurafenib, as well as on dissecting the specific contribution of ultraviolet radiation to distinct subtypes of melanoma defined by their driver oncogene. In 2016, she became a Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinician Scientist Fellow and won the Wellcome-Beit Award. Her lab focuses on how ageing influences melanoma initiation and progression, and on developing rationales of adjuvant care for patients at high risk for melanoma progression. Amaya was most recently awarded the 2018 European Society for Dermatological Research Rising Star.