

Three junior group leaders from CNIO obtain 50% of the ERC Starting Grants awarded for Biomedicine in Spain.

Three junior group leaders from the Molecular Oncology Programme of the CNIO: Almudena Ramiro (DNA Hipermutation and Cancer Group), Eduardo Moreno (Cell Competition Group) and Oscar Fernández-Capetillo (Genomic Instability Group) have obtained one of the prestigious ERC Starting Grants in its first call.

The programme is a new initiative meant to help the transition of excellent young investigators towards their establishment as independent groups. The aim of this new programme was to make Europe an attractive option for young scientists at the early steps of their career, which contrasts with the previous initiatives oriented to promote networks of established laboratories.

In its first call, the programme has received over 9000 applications, which were evaluated by 20 independent panels of experts in the different areas of Basic Sciences, Engineering and Humanities. From the 201 favourably evaluated projects, 13 will be developed in Spain.

At the Institutional level, the three projects obtained by its investigators place CNIO as the second largest national Institution in the amount of awards, only after the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), which is composed of over 100 independent Institutions. In what regards to the projects strictly related to Biomedicine, the CNIO has obtained 3 out of the 6 projects awarded by the ERC.