



ÓSCAR FERNÁNDEZ-CAPETILLO
Vice-Director of Translational Research

“With our translational research efforts, at the CNIO we are trying to reduce the gap between research laboratories and cancer patients.”

The ultimate goal of the CNIO is to contribute to the global effort in the fight against cancer. This involves the work of many different laboratories and individuals, who collectively help to achieve this mission. During 2016, the CNIO maintained an important focus on translational research, placing significant importance on those research aspects that are in close proximity to the patients. These included the identification of novel mutations and altered pathways in samples from cancer patients that could perhaps be used to guide novel treatments. It is noteworthy to mention that a lot of this work was done under the framework of large international Consortia in which we participated, again underscoring CNIO's active contribution towards the worldwide effort in cancer research. One example of our key role in collaborative efforts is the important function that the CNIO Biobank carries out in coordinating the Spanish National Biobank Network, which manages patient samples

from 52 institutions across Spain. Finally, and in addition to our work in the discovery of molecular alterations that are present in cancer patients, the Clinical Research Programme tries to capitalise on these discoveries (as well as others from all around the world) by bringing them to the clinic. Besides from their efforts in trying to implement new clinical trials, the research from our clinical groups has revealed new insights that can be used to benefit cancer patients, such as novel strategies directed towards overcoming resistance to antiangiogenic agents. Finally, through our collaborative agreement with *Hospital 12 de Octubre*, two Clinical Research Units established by investigators from that hospital are also housed at the CNIO, in an effort to further strengthen our links with neighbouring hospitals.