



OSCAR FERNÁNDEZ-CAPETILLO
Vice-Director

“Doing this yearly analysis allows me to get a panoramic view of all the exciting things that are being done by CNIO-ans. My summary is simple: congratulations and, above all, thanks.”

Dear all, 2022 brought developments in many exciting scientific areas, such as the irruption of artificial intelligence or the first images of the James Webb telescope. We at CNIO keep doing our share, and during this last year our scientists made substantial advances in many important fronts. We now have new biomarkers to predict the response to chemotherapy in cancer patients, and new approaches for the early detection of bad prognosis disease. We have a better understanding of how cells respond to radiation and to other DNA damaging chemotherapies, as well as specific strategies to improve the efficacy of these therapies in the clinic. We have obtained atomic information on important cancer drivers that should enable us to develop targeted therapies, and improved our understanding of the mechanisms that limit the efficacy of anti-cancer treatments. Besides cancer, part of our research is focused on fundamental aspects of cell biology that impact many areas. In this regard, we have also made important advances in other diseases such as lung fibrosis, viral infections, or

neurodegeneration. Among our many discoveries, I want to single out one from the Malumbres laboratory, which provided a beautiful example of how much information can be extracted from single-cell sequencing data, when these experiments are coupled with original analyses and well formulated hypotheses. Technology is wonderful, but it only becomes great when coupled with insightful questions. I started this paragraph by quoting the excitement brought by the amazing images coming from the James Webb telescope. Like many others, I also wanted to become an astronaut as a kid. In 2022, one of our colleagues, Sara García Alonso, managed to make this dream true. Congratulations Sara, seeing you succeed is a reminder that, sometimes, if persistent and hardworking, things can work out for us in marvellous ways. Hoping the future still has a few unexpected and positive surprises for all of us, thanks once again for your work, and my best wishes for the coming year. ■