



Dr. Melero started out in biomedical research as a resident of immunology at the prestigious department of this specialty at Hospital Universitario de la Princesa (Madrid). He completed his doctoral thesis with Professor Miguel López-Botet identifying and functionally studying natural killer cell receptors. His work obtained the Outstanding Doctorate Award. In 1994 he joined Bristol Myers Squibb Company as a researcher in cancer immunotherapy in its institute in Seattle (WA). The result of his three years of work in this environment gave rise to pioneering publications regarding our concurrent knowledge on costimulation of antitumor immune responses and the use of immunostimulatory monoclonal antibodies. During this period, he worked with Professor Lieping Chen in the division led by Professor Karl E. Hellström. In 1998 he returned to Spain recruited by CIMA and Clínica Universidad de Navarra. In these centers he has led a multidisciplinary team working in cancer immunotherapy with cell therapy techniques, gene therapy and monoclonal antibodies. Dr. Melero is full professor of immunology at the University of Navarra, has directed 12 PhD thesis (6 of them obtained the Outstanding Doctorate Award), and has been principal researcher in over 30 clinical trials of immunotherapy (both sponsored by industry or by the center itself). His work has resulted in three patents transferred to industry. From a bibliometric point of view, Dr. Melero has an h-index of 56 and 234 articles indexed in Medline. For his career he has been awarded the BIAL Medicine award (2004), Conde de Cartagena Award of the Royal Academy of Medicine (2006) and Dr. Durantez award of the LAIR Foundation (2011) among other honors. In 2015 he was appointed director of the Immunology and Immunotherapy department of the Clínica Universidad de Navarra and in 2018 he was appointed Corresponding member of the Royal Nacional Academy of Medicine. The phrase that best defines Dr. Melero's scientific biography is Translational Research in Cancer Immunotherapy in collaboration with pharmaceutical industry and with european groups attaining continuous funding either as a single investigator in consortia for the development of therapeutic strategies.