

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Elisa Robles Escajeda

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): erobles3

POSITION TITLE: Post-Doctoral Researcher

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Universidad Autónoma de Cd. Juárez Chih. México	M.D	12/2002	Medical Doctor
University of Texas at El Paso. El Paso Texas	B.S.	05/2011	Microbiology
University of Texas at El Paso. El Paso Texas	Ph.D.	05/2017	Pathobiology

A. Personal Statement

The goal of the proposed RCMI U54 grant is to decrease Hispanic cancer health disparities and to generate new knowledge that will inform future research and improve the clinical outcomes and standards of care in cancer patients in Hispanic populations primarily of Mexican origin. For this grant, my efforts will be focused on the analysis of cancer tissue and the assessment of the drug sensitivity models. I will also aid in the collection of tissue for the UTEP biorepository. I have significant clinical and research experience, expertise and training to successfully complete the proposed research grant. The current project builds logically on my previous experience with drug-screening, protein expression and cell signaling in cancer cells. I will take the necessary steps to collect information from different resources, plan the experiments and integrate the information to publish in peer-reviewed journals. Moreover, as a young investigator this grant would enhance my experience and skills focusing in health disparities.

B. Positions and Honors**Positions and Employment**

- 2001-2002 Medical internship at the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS) in México.
- 2002-2003 Medical Doctor in charge of the Municipal Clinic at the town of Praxedis G. Guerrero in the state of Chihuahua México.
- 2004-2009 Private practice in General and Family Medicine in México.
- 2009-2011 Research Assistant at BBRC at The University of Texas at El Paso.
- 2017-Present Post-Doctoral Researcher at BBRC, Biological Sciences at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2008 - 2011	ASM "American Society for Microbiology"
2010- 2011	SACNAS "Advancing Hispanics/Chicanos & Native Americans in Science"
2010- 2012	ASBMB "The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology"
2011- 2013	ASCB "The American Society for Cell Biology"
2016- 2017	AAI "The American Association of Immunologists"
2019-Present	ISBER "International Society for Biological and Environmental Biorepositories"

Honors

1999	Annual Award to the "Complete Student". UACJ.
2001	Honor roll in medical internship at the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social.
1997-2000	Scholarship from the UACJ for the "Academic Excellence" toward M.D. students.
2011-2012	The Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) Travel Award for The ASCB Annual meeting.
2012-2016	The Compact for Faculty Diversity Travel Award (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016)
2009-2011	RISE Scholar Undergraduate (Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement Program)
2011-2015	RISE Scholar Graduate 2011-2015 (Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement Program at UTEP)

C. Contributions to Science

- 1) My main publications are focused in the study of proteins that could serve as a biomarkers and therapeutic targets for leukemia and lymphoma. I demonstrate that prohibitin proteins are markedly upregulated in leukemia/lymphoma cell lines and patient samples, and promote cell survival. In addition, we studied the mechanism of action of novel compounds in hematopoietic malignancies and their effects on cell signaling pathways. These publications show how the upregulation of specific proteins will cause an antiapoptotic effect in the cells and how we can target them for therapeutic intervention.
 - a) Blanca E. Ruiz-Medina, Dennise Lerma, Michael Hwang, Jeremy A. Ross, Rachid Skouta, Renato J. Aguilera, Robert A. Kirken, Armando Varela-Ramirez, Elisa Robles-Escajeda. '*Green barley mitigates cytotoxicity in human lymphocytes undergoing aggressive oxidative stress, via activation of both the Lyn/PI3K/Akt and MAPK/ERK pathways*'. Scientific Reports, April 2019, 9(1):6005.
 - b) Elisa Robles-Escajeda, Dennise Lerma, Alice M. Nyakeriga, Jeremy A. Ross, Robert A. Kirken, Renato J. Aguilera, Armando Varela-Ramirez. '*Searching in Mother Nature for anti-cancer activity: anti-proliferative and pro-apoptotic effect elicited by Green Barley on leukemia/lymphoma cells*'. PLOS ONE, September 2013, Volume 8, Issue 9, e73508.
 - c) Elisa Robles-Escajeda*, Jeremy A. Ross*, Derrick M. Oaxaca, Diana L. Padilla and Robert A. Kirken. '*The Prohibitin Protein Complex Promotes Mitochondrial Stabilization and Cell Survival in Hematologic Malignancies*' Oncotarget, July 2017, Volume 8, No.39, pp 65445-65456.
 - d) Yahaira Santiago-Vazquez, Swagatika Das, Umashankar Das, Elisa Robles-Escajeda, Nora M. Ortega, Carolina Lema, Armando Varela-Ramirez, Renato J. Aguilera, Jan Balzarini, Erik De Clercq, Stephen G. Dimmock, Dennis K.J. Gorecki, Jonathan R. Dimmock. '*Novel 3, 5-bis (arylidene)-4-oxo-1-piperidinyl dimers: Structure-activity relationships and potent Antileukemic and Antilymphoma cytotoxicity*' European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, March 2014, Volume 77, pp 315-322.
- 2) We directly documented the results of the screening for novel anticancer drugs in cancer cells like breast, cervical, prostate, leukemia and brain cancer. In addition, we provide evidence of the effect in the gender origin of cell lines (female or male) when screening for antineoplastic drugs. The results demonstrated that there is greater sensitivity for the male-derived when compared with female-derived cells highlighting the necessity to account for the gender of cell lines in prospective screenings.
 - a) Elisa Robles-Escajeda, Umashankar Das, Nora M. Ortega, Karla Parra, Giulio Francia, Jonathan R. Dimmock, Armando Varela-Ramirez, Renato J. Aguilera. '*A novel Curcumin-like Dienone induces*

