

## Ana Cristina Leandro, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor  
Department of Human Genetics  
South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute  
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
School of Medicine

### Contact Information

BLCBR 1.211A  
1 West University Dr  
Brownsville, Texas 78520  
Phone: (956) 882-7638  
Email: ana.leandro@utrgv.edu

### Education & Training

2009-2014 Postdoctorate in Vaccine Development, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, San Antonio, USA.  
2003-2009 Infectious Diseases Clinical Research – Immunomolecular, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil.  
2001-2002 M.S. Parasitology Biology – Infectious diseases, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil.  
1996-1999 B.S. Biomedical Science, Rio de Janeiro University, Brazil.

### Research Focus

Focused, innovative, and resourceful scientific and laboratory researcher and team leader eager to contribute technical expertise, scientific knowledge, and extensive project experience to make a significant contribution toward the advancement of research. Highly skilled at conducting research both independently and collaboratively as part of a diverse team in deadline driven environments. Use excellent interpersonal and communication skills to build positive and highly productive working relationships with individuals from different backgrounds and areas of scientific skill and expertise.

### Publications

1. **Leandro AC**, Rocha MA, Cardoso CS, Bonecini-Almeida MG (2009) Genetic polymorphisms in vitamin D receptor, vitamin D-binding protein, Toll-like receptor 2, nitric oxide synthase 2, and interferon-gamma genes and its association with susceptibility to tuberculosis. *Braz J Med Res* 42(4): 312 - 322. PMID:19330258.

2. Albuquerque MC, Aleixo AL, Benchimol EI, **Leandro AC**, das Neves LB, Vicente RT, Bonecini-Almeida Mda G, Amendoeira MR (2009) The IFN-gamma +874T/A gene polymorphism is associated with retinochoroiditis toxoplasmosis susceptibility. *Mem Inst Oswaldo Cruz* 104 (3): 451 - 455. PMID: 19547871.
3. Martineau AR\*, **Leandro AC\***, Anderson ST, Newton SM, Wilkinson KA, Nicol MP, Pienaar SM, Skolimowska KH, Rocha MA, Rolla VC, Levin M, Davidson RN, Bremner SA, Griffiths CJ, Eley BS, Bonecini-Almeida MG, Wilkinson RJ (2010) Association between Gc genotype and susceptibility to TB is dependent on vitamin D status. *Eur Respir J* 35(5): 1106 - 1112. PMID: PMC2864196. \* **co-first authors**.
4. **Leandro AC**, Rocha MA, Lamoglia-Souza A, VandeBerg JL, Rolla VC, Bonecini-Almeida Mda G (2013) No association of *IFNG* +874T/A SNP and *NOS2A* -954G/C SNP variants with nitric oxide radical serum levels or susceptibility to tuberculosis in a Brazilian population subset. *Biomed Res Int* 2013: 901740. PMID: PMC3759278.
5. Cepeda M, Salas M, Folwarczny J, **Leandro AC**, Hodara VL, de la Garza MA, Dick EJ Jr, Owston M, Armitige LY, Gauduin MC (2013) Establishment of a neonatal rhesus macaque model to study Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection. *Tuberculosis (Edinb)* 93 Suppl: S51 - S59. PMID: PMC4051704.
6. Knowles EEM, Curran JE, Göring HHH, Mathias SR, Mollon J, Rodrigue A, Olvera RL, **Leandro AC**, Duggirala R, Almasy L, Blangero J, Glahn DC (2019) Family-based analyses reveal novel genetic overlap between interleukin-8 and risk for suicide attempt. *Brain Behav Immun* 80:292-299. PMID: PMC7168352.
7. Rodrigue AL, Knowles EEM, Mollon J, Mathias SR, Koenis M, Peralta JM, **Leandro AC**, Fox PT, Sprooten E, Kochunov P, Olvera RL, Duggirala R, Almasy L, Curran JE, Blangero J, Glahn DC (2019) Evidence for pleiotropy between human cerebral white matter microstructure and inflammation. *Hum Brain Mapp* 40(14):4180-4191. PMID: PMC6707845.
8. Blackburn NB, Michael LF, Meikle PJ, Peralta JM, Mosior M, McAhren S, Bui HH, Bellinger M, Giles C, Kumar S, **Leandro AC**, Almeida M, Weir JM, Nestel PJ, Simes J, Sullivan DR, Tonkin AM, Mahaney MC, Dyer TD, Almasy L, VandeBerg JL, Williams-Blangero S, Glahn DC, Duggirala R, Kowala M, Blangero J, Curran JE (2019) A rare variant in *DEGS1* with major effects on the de novo ceramide synthesis pathway. *J Lipid Res*. 60(9):1630-1639. PMID: PMC6718439.
9. Kumar S, Espinosa EC, **Leandro AC**, Curran JE, Blangero J (2019) MicroRNA and mRNA interactions in induced pluripotent stem cell reprogramming of lymphoblastoid cell lines. *Am J Stem Cells* 8(2):28-37. PMID: PMC6737382.
10. Kumar S, Curran JE, DeLeon E, **Leandro AC**, Howard TE, Lehman DM, Williams-Blangero S, Glahn DC, Blangero J (2020) Role of miRNA-mRNA interaction in neural stem cell differentiation of induced pluripotent stem cells. *Int J Mol Sci* 21(19): 6980. PMID: PMC7582477.

11. Kumar S, Curran JE, Kumar K, DeLeon E, **Leandro AC**, Peralta J, Williams-Blangero S, Blangero J (2021) Disease modelling and disease gene discovery in cardiomyopathies: A molecular study of induced pluripotent stem cell generated cardiomyocytes. *Int J Mol Sci* 22(7): 3311. PMID: 33805011.
12. Blackburn NB, **Leandro AC**, Nahvi N, Devlin MA, Leandro M, Martinez Escobedo I, Peralta JM, George J, Stacy BA, deMaar TW, Blangero J, Keniry M, Curran JE (2021) Transcriptomic profiling of fibropapillomatosis in green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) from South Texas. *Front Immunol* 12: 630988. PMCID: PMC7943941.
13. Yetsko K, Farrell JA, Blackburn NB, Whitmore L, Stammnitz MR, Whilde J, Eastman CB, Ramia DR, Thomas R, Krstic A, Linser P, Creer S, Carvalho G, Devlin MA, Nahvi N, **Leandro AC**, deMaar TW, Burkhalter B, Murchison EP, Schnitzler C, Duffy DJ (2021) Molecular characterization of a marine turtle tumor epizootic, profiling external, internal and postsurgical regrowth tumors. *Communications Biology* 4: 152. PMCID: [PMCID: PMC7851172](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/3511172/).
14. Blackburn NB, Meikle PJ, Peralta JM, Kumar S, **Leandro AC**, Bellinger MA, Giles C, Huynh K, Mahaney MC, Goring HHH, VandeBerg JL, Williams-Blangero J, Glahn DC, Duggirala R, Blangero J, Michael LF, Curran JE (2021) Identifying the lipidomic effects of a rare loss-of-function deletion in *ANGPTL3*. *Circ Genom Precis Med* 14:369-378. PMCID: PMC8206021.
15. **Ana Cristina C Leandro**, Laura F. Michael, Marcio Almeida, Mikko Kuokkanen, Kevin Huynh, Corey Giles, Thy Duong, Vincent P Diego, Ravindranath Duggirala, Geoffrey D Clarke, John Blangero, Peter J Meikle and Joanne E Curran. Influence of the Human Lipidome on Epicardial Fat Volume in Mexican American Individuals. Original Research, *Front. Cardiovasc. Med. - Lipids in Cardiovascular Disease*, Manuscript ID: 889985. **Submitted March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**