

María del Pilar Hernández-Con, MD
Curriculum Vitae

email address: hernandezcon.mpi@ufl.edu

Education

3/1998 - 12/2003 MD, University of Costa Rica
1/2003 - 12/2003 Internship in General Medicine
University of Costa Rica
3/1998 - 2/2001 B.S Medical Sciences, University of Costa Rica

Postgraduate Training

8/2020 - Present Doctoral student – Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy (POP)
7/2018 – Present Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology (MSCE) candidate 2020 – University of Pennsylvania
7/2018 – 6/2020 Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Center of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB) – University of Pennsylvania
1/2017 – 6/2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Department of Neurology - University of Pennsylvania

Professional and Research Experience

8/2020 – Present **University of Florida, Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy (POP)**
Research Assistant

8/2016 - 1/2017 **University of Pennsylvania, Movement Disorder Center, Department of Neurology**
Research Assistant, Philadelphia, PA

Responsible for designing, building and managing a database that captures and stores the follow-up data of patients with Parkinson’s disease. The data there collected are currently being used in a prospective study that aims to better understand the association between Deep Brain Stimulation and Impulse Control Disorders in these patients

5/2015 - 3/2016

**University of Pennsylvania, Department of Family
Medicine and Community Health**
Research Assistant, Philadelphia, PA

Responsible for the retrospective analysis of different screening tests performed in a group of people with diagnosis of Colon Cancer.

Involved in the development of a protocol for a new research project assessing the Fecal Immunochemical test (FIT) as a screening test for Colon Cancer.

2/2014 - 1/2016

Lower Bucks Hospital
Clinical Documentation Specialist, Bristol, PA

4/2005 - 6/2012

University of Costa Rica, San Diego Clinic
Attending Physician, Cartago, Costa Rica

Provided primary care to a population of over 4000 people. I was responsible for the care of patients with several chronic medical conditions (e.g, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, asthma), as well as for providing prenatal care and well-child visits, and performing minor surgical procedures.

I would also provide acute care to patients with stroke, myocardial infarction, acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, among others.

6/2011 - 12/2011

**San Juan de Dios Hospital, Department of
Neurology**
Research Assistant, San José, Costa Rica

Launched an observational study assessing the response of patients with refractory epilepsy to treatment with Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS).

The purpose of the study was to provide evidence to the Administrative Office of the Public Health Care in Costa Rica to justify the approval for a budget to generalize the treatment of VNS, in this type of patients, across the country.

2/2004 - 2/2005

Colonia Puntarenas Clinic
Attending Physician, Upala, Costa Rica

2/2004 - 2/2005

Upala Hospital, Emergency Department
Attending Physician, Upala, Costa Rica

Honors and Awards

2018 – 2020 T32 Training Grant for the University of Pennsylvania
MSCE Program

12/2008 Program of Comprehensive Care and Diabetes
Commission Award
University of Costa Rica

Collaborated on organizing and improving the outpatient healthcare delivery for patients with diabetes mellitus in the community I worked for seven years.

1/2005 Social Service Honorable Mention

Award received for my good performance and engagement with the community I served during the social service.

Certification and Licensure

11/2017 Clinical Research Certificate
Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB)
University of Pennsylvania

12/2009 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates
Certificate No. 07173719

Certificate granted to foreign medical graduates that complete the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) and who are candidates to apply for a residency in the USA.

3/2004 - Present Licensed in Costa Rica, MD7844

Leadership and Volunteer Service

8/2019 – Present **International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE)**
Chief of Membership of the Latin American Regional Interest
Group (LARIG)

The mission of the group is to raise awareness about the practical uses of pharmacoepidemiology at both governmental

and non-governmental levels in the Latin American countries. As the chief of membership of LARIG, I am responsible for recruiting new members interested in collaborating with the group.

11/2019 – 8/2020 **International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE) / University of Pennsylvania Student Chapter**
Board of Members - Secretary

I collaborate on the organization of academic activities for students in the MSCE / PhD in Epidemiology programs, and recent-graduated postdoctoral fellows.

8/2017 – 2/2018 **Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians**
Member of the Speaker's Bureau

Launched a program to become the public voice of immigrants living in the city of Philadelphia, and in the country, when needed.

7/2016 - 6/2017 **Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians**
Member of the Advisory Council

The Welcoming Center is a non-profit organization based in Philadelphia, whose mission is to promote immigrant integration and economic advancement in the city. As a member of the advisory council, I provided advice, from an immigrant perspective, on how to improve the different programs this organization offers.

I still support the organization by mentoring professional immigrants as they walk through their new life in the country.

1/2012 - 2/2012 **Casa Emanuel Medical Center**
Visiting Attending Physician, Bissau, Guinee-Bissau

Collaborated for six weeks on the management of patients (all ages) with different infectious diseases (for example: Malaria, Typhoid fever, Schistosomiasis, HIV, TB) and many other medical and surgical conditions (e.g., management of bowel obstructions), as well as performing minor procedures (e.g., sutures, stabilization of fractures), in an outpatient and inpatient setting.

Provided prenatal and neonatal care, delivered babies, all in extremely hard conditions.

Organized different health fairs, mainly directed towards the importance of vaccination, and of Pap smear to prevent cervical Cancer in women.

Publications

Peer reviewed original research

1. Posavi, M.*, Diaz-Ortiz, M.*, Liu, B*, Swanson, CR., Skrinak, RT., **Hernandez-Con, P.**, Amado, DA., Fullard, M., Rick, J., Siderowf, A., Weintraub, D., McCluskey, Trojanowski, J.Q., Dewey, D., Huang, X., Chen-Plotkin, A. Characterization of Parkinson's Disease using blood-based biomarkers: A multi-cohort proteomic analysis. PLoS Med. 2019 October 11. 16(10): e1002931. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1002931
2. Olsson, B., Portelius, E., Cullen, N.C., Sandelius, A., Zetterberg, H., Andreasson, U., Höglund, K., Irwin, D.J, Grossman, M., Weintraub, D., Chen-Plotkin, A., Wolk, D., McCluskey, L., Elman, L., Shaw, L., Toledo, J.B., McBride, J., **Hernandez-Con, P.**, Lee, V.M., Trojanowski, J.Q., Blenow, K. "Association of Cerebrospinal Fluid Neurofilament Light Protein levels with Cognition in Patients with Dementia, Motor Neuron Disease, and Movement Disorders." JAMA Neurol. 2019. 76(3): 318-325.
3. Amado DA*, Rieders JM*, Diatta F, **Hernandez-Con P**, Singer A, Mak, J.T, Zhang J, Lancaster E, Davidson BL, Chen-Plotkin AS. AAV-mediated progranulin delivery to a mouse model of progranulin deficiency causes T cell-mediated hippocampal degeneration. Molecular Therapy. 2019. 27(2): 465-478.
4. Humbert M, Findley J, **Hernandez-Con M.**, Chahine, LM. "Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia in Parkinson's disease: a case series." npj Parkinson's Dis. 2017. 25(3): 1-6.
5. Charan, R.A., Unger, T.L., Busch, J.I, Amado, D., **Hernandez-Con, M.P.**, Middleman, J., Chen-Plotkin, A.S. Interaction of the frontotemporal dementia-associated protein TMEM106B with VAMP8 in lysosome-autophagosome fusion. (*Under Review*)

Abstracts and Poster Presentations

1. **Hernandez-Con Maria P**, Shults J, Willis AW, Yang XY. Dopamine Agonists and Risk of Lung Cancer in Patients with Restless Legs Syndrome. *International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology*. ICPE All Access - Virtual Event, 2020.
2. Amado DA, Rieders JM, Diatta F, **Hernandez-Con P**, Singer A, Mak, J.T, Zhang J, Lancaster E, Davidson BL, Chen-Plotkin AS. AAV-mediated progranulin delivery to a mouse model of progranulin deficiency causes T cell-mediated hippocampal degeneration. *American Neurological Association 143rd Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, 2018.
3. Coughlin D, Spindler M, Pavon M, **Hernandez-Con P**, and Chahine L. “Expectations and perceived outcomes following deep brain stimulation for Parkinson’s disease: a case series.” Scientific research poster at the *MDS conference*, Vancouver, BC, June 2017.
4. Pavon M, **Hernandez-Con P**, Scordia C, Spindler M, and Chahine, L. “Establishing the Penn specialty assessment for evaluation of deep brain stimulation database.” Scientific research poster at the Institute of Aging’s Sylvan M Cohen retreat at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, June 2016.

Languages

Spanish and French: fluent

English: proficient

Italian: conversational

Chinese (mandarin): basic