

Miquel Porta, MD, MPH, PhD

- Head, Clinical & Molecular Epidemiology of Cancer Unit, Hospital del Mar Institute of Medical Research (IMIM)
 - Professor of Preventive Medicine & Public Health, School of Medicine, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
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Miquel Porta is a physician, epidemiologist and scholar from Barcelona who works on molecular, clinical and environmental epidemiology of pancreatic and other cancers, and has promoted the integration of biological, clinical, environmental and social knowledge and methods in research and teaching internationally.

The Unit of Dr. Porta at IMIM has a distinguished record of internationally recognized research on the clinical and molecular epidemiology of pancreatic cancer, with a focus on the role of gene-environment interactions, including persistent organic pollutants (POPs), other endocrine-disruptors (EDCs), and other environmental chemical agents (EQAs) such as perfluoroalkyl substances, phthalates and phenols, brominated diphenyl ethers, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, metals and trace elements. They have also published extensively on human biomonitoring and the uses of biomarkers to assess the impact of environmental factors on human health, as well as on diagnostic and therapeutic delays in cancer. As a response to the current pandemic, they raised funds to assess the influence of numerous AQAs on immunological status, SARS-CoV-2 infection, response to vaccines, and COVID-19 disease severity and prognosis.

Prof. Porta has taught at several global institutions, including NYU and UNC, Imperial College (London), Harvard, McGill, the Universities of Ottawa, and Bergen, the City University of New York, Kuwait University, and several other universities in America and Europe. He has acted as an external grant and doctoral thesis reviewer for the Karolinska Institutet, the Finnish Academy, Diabetes UK, the Environment and Health Fund - Israel, the French National Cancer Institute, the National Science Centre in Poland, and several other European and American scientific organizations.

He was Chairman of the International Epidemiological Association (IEA) European Epidemiology Federation and member of the IEA World Council. He was President of the Spanish Society of Epidemiology (SEE). He is the current editor of *A dictionary of epidemiology* (New York, Oxford University Press, 2014).

Beyond his main lines of research, Dr. Porta has written and writes –both in the academic and in the lay presses and social media– on topics as causality, genomics, public health crises and pandemics as the present from COVID-19, scientific and social impacts of academic journals, or the societal roles of scientific associations. He also believes that scholars have a responsibility to dialogue with and to transfer knowledge to society; thus, he regularly collaborates with a variety of governmental and non-governmental organisations, public and private companies, and with selected media. He speaks, reads and writes fluently in Catalan, Spanish, French and English. He travels often to teach, rest, or both.

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