



### DATOS PERSONALES

NAME: ANA KARLA CEPEDA DIAZ

FIELD: MÉDICA E INVESTIGADORA

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#### EDUCATION:

- **Harvard University**, Boston MA 2019-2024  
PhD, Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- **Harvard College**, Cambridge MA 2015 – 2019  
AB Molecular and Cell Biology with Honors  
Secondary Field: History of Science



### SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Lourido Lab**, Whitehead Institute of MIT, Cambridge MA 2024-Present
- Postdoctoral research: Investigating the host-determining factors of Toxoplasma infection.
- Dvorin Lab**, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA 2020-2024
- PhD research: Dissertation research investigating proteins involved in the cytoskeleton of *P. falciparum*, with a focus on their biochemical interactions and role in parasite replication. Application of Ultrastructure Expansion Microscopy to the study of the asexual blood stages.
- Vandenberghe Lab**, Schepens Eye Research Institute/Mass. Eye and Ear Infirmary, Boston, MA 2016 –2019
- Undergraduate researcher; 14-30 h/week term time, 40-46 h/week summer. Independent research project on Adeno-Associated Virus biology. Focus on protein-protein interactions and protein degradation during viral assembly.
  - Research Assistant I (2018 –2019); 15 h/week, management support and overseeing research laboratory operations including equipment maintenance, inventory, purchasing, receiving and shipping materials.



**F31 NRSA National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases**  
2024

2022 –

Characterizing the *Plasmodium falciparum* Subpellicular Network. F31AI172110

SELECTED AWARDS

**ASGCT 2019 Under-Represented Minority Travel Award**, American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy May 2019

Gene and Cell Therapy

**Herschel Smith Undergraduate Science Research Program**, Harvard University

Summer 2018

PRESENTATIONS

**World Malaria Day 2023**, Poster presentation April 2023

**Molecular Parasitology Meeting XXXII**, Oral presentation October 2022

**Molecular Parasitology Meeting XXXI**, Poster presentation October 2021

**Molecular Parasitology Meeting XXXI**, Poster presentation, held virtually Sept 2020

**American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy 2019**, Oral presentation, Washington DC

May 2019

PUBLICATIONS

- Cepeda Diaz, A. K., Rudlaff, R. M., Farringer, M., & Dvorin, J. D. (2023). Essential function of alveolin PflMC1g in the *Plasmodium falciparum* asexual blood stage. *mBio*. DOI: 10.1128/mbio.01507-23
- Liffner, B.\*, Cepeda Diaz, A. K.\*, Blauwkamp, J., Anaguano, D., Frölich, S., Muralidharan, V., ... & Absalon, S. (2023). Atlas of *Plasmodium falciparum* intraerythrocytic development using expansion microscopy. *eLife* 12:RP88088. DOI: 10.7554/eLife.88088.1
- Maurer, A. C., Diaz, A. K. C., & Vandenberghe, L. H. (2019). Residues on AAV Capsid Lumen Dictate Interactions and Compatibility With the Assembly-activating Protein. *Journal of Virology*, 93(7), 10-1128. DOI: 10.1128/JVI.02013-18.
- Maurer, A.C., Pacouret, S., Diaz, A.K.C., Blake, J., Andres-Mateos, E. and Vandenberghe, L.H., (2018). The Assembly-Activating Protein Promotes Stability and Interactions between AAV's Viral Proteins to Nucleate Capsid Assembly. *Cell reports*, 23(6), 1817-1830. DOI: 10.1016/j.celrep.2018.04.026

\*These authors contributed equally

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