

## **FP6-2005-SSP-5-B INFLUENZA Partner Profile**

Part of the projects developed at the **University of Lisbon** through the collaboration of the group of Miguel Castanho (Faculty of Sciences) and Nuno C. Santos (Institute of Molecular Medicine, Lisbon Medical School) are focused on the study of potential drugs derived from viral membrane proteins of the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1), Influenza viruses, dengue fever virus and of the coronavirus responsible for the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS-CoV). Studies on the interaction with biomembranes of antimicrobial peptides, polyene antibiotics, analgesic peptides blood plasma proteins and endotoxins are also under way. Most of these studies have been conducted in close collaboration with pharmaceutical companies or research groups from Europe, North and South America, China and Australia. The innovative experimental approaches used include fluorescence spectroscopy methodologies, light scattering spectroscopy and atomic force microscopy, together with the *in vitro* evaluation of changes on blood cells properties.

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